**Virginia Library Association**

**VLA Council**

**Libbie Mill Branch Library**

**Richmond, VA**

**Friday, April 5, 2019**

**Attendees**:

Executive Committee – Cori Biddle, Todd Elliott, Kayla Payne, Jennifer Resor-Whicker, Jessica Scalph, Lisa Varga, Adrian Whicker

VLA Council – Cindy Church, Bill Edwards-Bodmer, Barbara Ferrara, Gregg Grunow, Michael Hibben, Rebecca Lamb, Kelly Miller, Lisa Nickel, Ginny Pannabecker, Anne Rappe-Epperson, Jeanne Scott, Erica Testani

**Absent**:

Executive Committee – Samantha Thomason

VLA Council – Dorrine Banks, Alisha Barnes, Katelyn Burton, Kolleen Daniels, Melissa Davis, Easter DiGagni, Paige Flanagan, Shaunda Hunter, Kristi Jerome, Katie Kalil, Paula Kiser, Cammy Koch, Karen Nelson, Jessica Robertson, Tom Shepley, Salena Sullivan, Hayley Tompkins

**Call to Order** **& Introductions**

Jessica Scalph called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. Everyone introduced themselves.

**Secretary’s Report**

Kayla Payne emailed the minutes of the Council meeting held in January prior to this meeting. The January minutes can be seen here: <https://www.vla.org/assets/VLACouncilJan19.docx>

Jennifer Resor-Whicker moved the minutes be approved. Adrian Whicker seconded, and the motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Cori Biddle gave the treasurer’s report. The report can be viewed here: (<https://www.vla.org/assets/April%205%20Statement%20of%20Activities%20Treasurer%20Report.pdf>)

The report summarizes our current income and expenses. The main takeaway from the report is that the Association is in excellent shape, with a net income already of over $58,000 dollars.

The main driver of this income is the overwhelming success of our affiliate membership program. We have currently made over $58,000 from the membership, with some invoices still at large. Once they are paid, we will have made $10,000 more than what we had budgeted for this year. Also exceeded our budget income is our individual membership income which is $5,000 more than we had budgeted. In total the association has exceeded our revenue goal from memberships by $15,000.

We are also exceeding our projections with our vendor income, which comes from our conference booths, ads, and the conference attendee list. Other lines of interest include JobLine which is consistent a strong revenue stream for us, and the line related to the Innovative Library Classroom conference. Registration just opened, and closed, for the conference so there are no corresponding expenses yet. Our institutional dues goal for this year is $54,000, so we are well on our way with the approximately $29,000 collected so far.

Expenses are on track for the year, and are within the amounts outlined on our budget. If you have any questions about the budget, please let me know. ​Todd Elliott moved to accept the treasurer’s report. Adrian Whicker seconded.

**Executive Director's Report**

Lisa gave the Executive Director’s Report. As of today, we have 3,714 members. When additional payments come in from affiliate libraries, we will have additional 63 members.

The President at Hollins University told a Library staff member that she needed to remove digital yearbooks from the library website that included blackface per the University President. ALA is helping Hollins Library craft a statement and Executive Committee has voted to sign Virginia Library Association support to this letter, which can be viewed here: <https://www.vla.org/assets/ALA.Hollins.VA.pdf>

The situation at Hollins serves to remind us that whatever is happening at your library is not just happening at your library, it’s happening in other places. ALA and VLA are here to help.

In February, Lisa and Mark Miller had productive meetings with representatives at the legislative fly in. The strategic fly in was held in place of National Library Legislative Day since Both Senator Kaine and Warner have signed on to LSTA funding.

**Executive Committee**

Jessie gave the Executive Committee Report. Todd reported on the nominating committee. We are doing well with a pool of candidates. We could use another Academic nominee for Second Vice President. Please email Todd directly if you have any recommendations.

Jessie and Lisa attended a zoom Conference meeting in March. Planning is moving along nicely. The Local Arrangement Committee is finding fun things for us to do on Wednesday.

The committee discussed the VLA newsletter. One idea is to include a “How We Work” column to give snapshot of members in their libraries in addition to People and Happenings.

Executive Committee asked Council for approval for a 5 hour per week, $15/hr assistant position to help take some of the time-consuming tasks off Lisa’s plate. In light of increased income due to affiliate memberships and increased vendor costs, the committee feels this expense can be supported by the current budget. Cindy Church moved to accept this proposal. Gregg Grunow seconded. The motion carried.

Lisa has someone in mind with association background. They wouldn’t have access to the membership database or financials, but would help with some of the behind the scenes tasks. This person would be trained on library privacy

**VLA Annual Conference**

Call for session proposals for VLA and VLACRL ended on April 3. The committee will meet at the end of April to select presenters. The local arrangements team is planning several wonderful activities for the conference including dine-arounds, library tours, and other free events. Vendor booth sales are going very well so far. Registration will open in June, so the committee will be finalizing costs and begin working on the program soon.

Vendor registration opened in March and within the first three or four days, 30 booths out of 84 were sold. Six people have signed on to buy the attendee list. People can opt out of the list and vendors are aware of this. We had 139 session proposal submissions to VLA and 48 to VLACRL Conference within a Conference. The most we’ve had in the past has been 118.

The conference keynote will be Ellen Oh. Lunch-arounds on Friday are being considered to get people out in groups in addition to the Thursday Dine-arounds.

Since VLA is a state chapter host for the ALA conference in D.C. June 20-25, there is a $50 off discount code for registration. VLA, alongside Delaware, Maryland, and DC Library Associations, will be sharing three booths in the exhibit hall to promote state membership and do giveaways. Virginia is for Library Lovers imagery can be used for giveaways, not for selling merchandise, so we may make buttons and magnets. Volunteers may be requested to stuff registration bags on Wednesday.

VLA will not be sponsoring preconference sessions since other activities like the African American History Museum will have a bigger draw. Loudon County is coordinating a social event on Thursday before the Conference begins. They will bus people to wineries and also visit libraries. As people arrive on Thursday, there will also be a “Welcome to D.C.” party at The Line DC, with Tracy Sumler, incoming DCLA President, hosting.

The company that sponsored the introvert/extrovert lounge last year will be creating conversation spots and charging stations around The Main. The conference committee meets onsite for their next meeting.

**Unit Reports**

Association of College Research Libraries (VLACRL) Forum (report submitted by Lisa Nickel)

VLACRL is busy planning the spring Virginia ACRL (VLACRL) Program on “Libraries, Analytics and Student Privacy.” on May 1, 2019 at Longwood University.

Join your academic library colleagues in this timely program focused on *Libraries, Analytics, and Student Privacy.*

Hannah Rainey, *Lead Librarian for Academic Technology, NC State University*

As the privacy landscape grows and shifts around us, library professionals must re-examine our role as stewards, advocates, and educators. We must grapple with challenging questions, such as: Do our policies and daily practices live up to the standards of our profession? Do the standards of our profession meet the expectations of our users?

For the last 3 years, Hannah Rainey has engaged with library colleagues and students in conversations and activities that highlight the importance and complexity of privacy and security in higher education and beyond. She will share her experiences with navigating this challenging problem space and discuss ideas for engaging students.

Laura Gariepy, *Associate University Librarian for Research and Learning, Virginia Commonwealth University*

Laura will provide an overview of what we currently know -- and don't know --about user perspectives on information privacy in the context of libraries. This is a critical area of understanding for librarians as student data plays an increasingly important role in universities' assessment practices. In addition, she will share preliminary findings from her dissertation research on undergraduate students' attitudes about search data privacy in academic libraries. The findings of her qualitative research will provide some of the first in-depth, exploratory information about student perspectives on this matter, and will begin to help answer the question of the extent to which librarians' long-held values about user privacy are aligned with student expectations.

We are also working on a summer workshop “[Project Outcome for Academic Libraries](https://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/archives/17254)”  for July 2019. The soon-to-be-launched Project Outcome for Academic Libraries is a *free* online toolkit designed to help academic libraries assess and communicate the impact of essential library programs and services. Based on [the model](https://www.projectoutcome.org/) developed by the Public Library Association (PLA), Project Outcome provides simple surveys and tools for measuring and analyzing outcomes, including interactive data dashboards. Users also have access to the resources and training support needed to use their results and confidently assert the value of their academic library. The standardized surveys allow libraries to aggregate their outcome data and analyze trends over time by service area and program type. Libraries can also benchmark their outcomes against other users’ aggregated results by Carnegie class and nationwide. ACRL’s Project Outcome for Academic Libraries launches in April 2019 and is *free* for all academic and research libraries in the United States and internationally.

Awards and Recognition Committee (report submitted by Katelyn Burton)

Kayla Payne read the report. The online nomination form for all 11 VLA & VLA PAF awards closed April 1. Many thanks to everyone who helped promote the awards this year, especially to Adrian for posting on social media so often on our behalf! The committee will be reviewing nominations and selecting winners between now and April 22, with the goal of notifying winners and their nominators in early May so they have plenty of time to make plans to attend the Awards Celebration. Winners will be announced publicly in June. Please plan to come party with us on Wednesday evening, October 23, at Hilton Norfolk The Main and help us kick-off another amazing conference and recognize our remarkable award winners.

Collection and Technical Services Forum (CaTS) (report submitted by Jessica Robertson)

Kayla Payne read the report. Jessica and Easter both have other obligations today and are sorry they can’t attend this council meeting. CaTS has a few things to report this quarter. The regional Learning Lunch sign-up is going very well and the first lunch already happened in Norfolk. There were 9 librarians in attendance and we had great conversation and food. Some of the upcoming lunches are already booked to capacity so we are excited about the interest they have received. At these lunches, besides talking about cataloging topics, we are also encouraging people to sign up for our CaTS E-list since we will use this for our main form of communication going forward. Jessica is also offering the opportunity for attendees to submit their name and possible topics they are interested/knowledgeable in. At the end of the lunches Jessica will compile a list of everyone who volunteered this information and send the compiled list back to them so they can possibly group with others who have similar interests for presentations at future VLA conferences. We believe this may help increase cataloging presentations because if you can have a partner it is less daunting to present! The last lunch will be June 7th so there is still plenty of time to join in on the fun.

CaTS is submitting a VLA proposal for a cataloging forum which, if accepted, will give catalogers a lively event to attend at this year’s VLA.

CaTS is also looking forward to the 18th of July where they will hold their annual Collections Forum. The date has just been set and the room at the Libby Mill Library has just been booked, so more details and a sign-up will be forthcoming.

Continuing Education Committee (report submitted by Barbara Ferrara)

Since the last council meeting, we completed the survey and administered it from Feb 5 through Feb 28th. We received 504 responses, the majority from people affiliated with public libraries, however we did get some academic, school, and prison library workers and library school students and others. There were people from all regions. We generally had people respond that they were satisfied with opportunities provided by VLA for professional growth, although some then commented that they were unfamiliar with any opportunities other than the conference(s).

The Continuing Education Committee looked at the results, too. Committee members felt the top needs expressed were for Digital and Media Literacy, Safety & Design of Spaces, Diversity, Reference, and Securing Grants. The vast majority selected “blended learning” as their preference for receiving training and said that distance and cost was the primary barrier to attending training. If anyone on Council is interested in seeing the results, please contact either Barbara Ferrara or Alisha Barnes and they will share the files.

The committee also used the survey results to consider potential topics for a conference session proposal. With the conference theme being “Peace, Love, Libraries” and safety being one of the identified needs and diversity being one of the needs, we would like to sponsor a program related to underrepresented populations or de-escalating confrontations (give peace a chance!). We submitted a proposal for a session about serving low literacy adults.

We are moving forward with a mini-Presentation Academy, with the focus on conference presentations. We created a bibliography of readings and webinars and activities, which we will be sending out, then two of us will be going to three locations around the state in August and September to work in person with presenters who want to practice. We will be in Christiansburg on August 16th, South Norfolk on August 26th, and the Salem Church Branch of Central Rappahannock PL on September 13th.

Diversity and Inclusion Forum

The Diversity and Inclusion Forum is in need of a new chair and co-chair. Paige Flanagan, who was the chair, is leaving for a new job out of state in June.

Intellectual Freedom Committee (report submitted by Rebecca Lamb)

Rebecca Lamb is now officially the IFC co-chair, along with Hayley Tompkins.

On February 19, Teresa Doherty and Rebecca Lamb presented a webinar of the well-attended session from VLA 2019 called “I Spy: Intellectual Freedom Issues at Your Library” for the Florida Library Association. This presentation and related handouts are archived at <https://floridalibrarywebinars.org/i-spy-intellectual-freedom-issues-at-your-library/>, although Rebecca and Teresa caution that there were technical problems with both the slide deck and a periodic audio echo. The head of the Indiana Library Association asked if she could use our “I Spy” presentation as the basis for a session she planned to give to her association. She is working with Kristin Pekoll, of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, who had been in our session at VLA and who recommended it. We consented, provided its creators were credited. VLA is certainly getting quite a reputation as the go-to for intellectual freedom training!

We presented a beautiful book wreath at Montpelier’s Wreath Laying Ceremony on Saturday, March 16 (Freedom of Information Day and James Madison’s Birthday). The book wreath was made out of the Bill of Rights and letters written by Madison, and we’ll likely be able to reuse it next year. It was very successful and started conversations about the Virginia Library Association and the role of intellectual freedom with other groups in attendance.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee along with Jefferson-Madison Regional Library submitted a proposal for the VLA Fall Conference on “Racism in Children’s Literature: Diversity, Inclusion and Intellectual Freedom” which dovetails nicely with this year’s theme of Peace, Love, and Libraries. Our committee has noticed a lot of talk about issues of racism in books and how to handle those from an intellectual freedom standpoint, and this session comes out of a specific challenge at Jefferson-Madison Regional Library of the Babar books and how they handled that, and will include other instances from other libraries.

Jefferson Cup Committee (report submitted by Salena Sullivan)

Erica Testani reported. The final submission number was 145 and we will be meeting at Hampden-Sydney next Friday, April 12 to pick winners.

Legislative Committee

No report.

Library of VA (report submitted by Cindy Church)

Cindy Church reported. After a year and a half to two years of construction, the Library of Virginia has a new café. *The Librarian’s Guide to Homelessness*, by Ryan Dowd, promises to help you reduce problems and conflict while remaining empathic with and inclusive to marginalized library patrons. Dowd and his work have been featured in *American Libraries* and both ALA and PLA conferences, to much acclaim. Dowd is the Executive Director of a large metropolitan homeless shelter outside of Chicago, Illinois. Learn more [here](http://www.homelesslibrary.com/).

Who: All public and academic library staff in Virginia

What: This 4-hour training is presented in short video clips to be viewed at your convenience, picking up where you left off.

When: On your schedule, this training opportunity is available through January 31, 2020.

How much: FREE!

How:  Create a Niche Academy account with username and password so that you are officially enrolled in the training. You can get an account and start your training from this URL:

<https://my.nicheacademy.com/virginia-state-staff/course/2321>

Questions: Contact Cindy Church, Library of Virginia, [cindy.church@lva.virginia.gov](mailto:cindy.church@lva.virginia.gov)

Save the afternoon of Wednesday, April 24th! Ryan will be presenting a webinar exclusively for Virginia!

Local History, Genealogy & Oral History Forum (report submitted by Gregg Grunow)

Gregg Grunow and Errol Somay have submitted a Concurrent Session Proposal for the 2019 VLA Annual Conference titled, "Newspapers at the Intersection of Local History and Genealogy". Errol is the Newspaper Project Director at the Library of Virginia.

On 03/04/2019 Greg placed a latest news item on VLA.org advertising for new forum members. Five or six people expressed interest.

There will be an online forum organizational meeting on Zoom on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 2 p.m. As of 9:30 this morning there were 31 people registered. Since the forum has been dormant, the focus will be gauging people’s interest in organization and structure of the forum, and finding sustainable leadership. The forum used to hold events across the state, like touring the Thomas Jefferson Library and Monticello or visiting the Library of Virginia. Similar events will be considered.

New Members Roundtable (report submitted by Bill Edwards-Bodmer)

Mentor Program

We successfully launched this year’s mentor program in March. We have 40 (20 mentor/mentee pairs) participants this year. That it is up from 22 participants (12 pairs) last year. A big thank you to Chelsea Seddon for organizing and leading the mentor program.

Annual Conference

We were unable to recruit a Conference Director to plan NMRT’s event for Wednesday night at this year’s annual conference. Bill and Anne will be taking on those duties and working with the Social Committee on the Conference Committee this year's event. A pub crawl or possible meetup at a Norfolk Admirals game will be planned.

Anne submitted a presentation proposal for career exploration program featuring a panel of librarians in different career fields. We think this presentation would be a great way for librarians to learn about different career paths that librarians can take.

Professional Associates Forum (VLAPAF) (report submitted by Jeanne Scott)

Jeanne Scott reported. The VLA PAF Board held a zoom meeting on 3/11/19.

There was some discussion on how to promote our upcoming “days of information gathering” sessions. Lisa suggested emailing VLA members and also specifically touching base with library directors to promote participation from within their organizations. A draft promo was crafted and shared among the group via Basecamp.

Our main idea is that we need input from professional associates across the entire spectrum of libraries and locales in order to make VLA PAF conferences a useful and meaningful experience for our attendees. We worked on composing a list of questions to entice library staff to attend the information gathering sessions and help guide discussions in a meaningful way.

Our information gathering sessions will begin with the attendees making a “choose your mood” badge and a name tent that can be placed at their table so others know who they are conversing with. We’ll have the attendees participate in a brief ice breaker activity to help us get to know one another so we can get to the heart of the matter. Discussions will include such topics as:

* What types of jobs do you do at your library? Most of us wear many hats in our day to day work.
* What kinds of things are you interested in?
* What would help you in your current job?
* Have you ever attended a VLA or VLA PAF conference?
* What was your favorite part?
* Where did we miss the mark?
* What do you want to see more/less of?
* What are you being asked to do in your job that you don’t feel sufficiently trained for?
* What resources do you need?
* What are your favorite things that your employer has done with continuing ed?
* Least favorite things?
* What types of continuing ed (training, classes, lectures, etc.) do you pursue outside of work?
* What do you expect from VLA - your vision of what VLA should/could be doing for its members?

We are planning on having monthly VLA PAF Board zoom meetings from this point forward to help to review the information we gather and plan for the future of VLA PAF as a whole. For now with our members busy schedules, it is much easier for us to meet virtually.

Scholarship Committee (report submitted by Michael Hibben)

The deadline to apply for the 2019 VLA Scholarship is Friday, April 5th. As soon as all of the paperwork is assembled, the Scholarship Committee will begin evaluating and ranking the candidates. We will aim to complete the process by mid-April and hope to announce the winners in early May.

Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL)

No report.

Virginia Libraries Journal (report submitted by Ginny Pannabecker)

Current Editorial Board

Cori Biddle - current term: 2018-2021, Julia Feerrar - current term: 2018-2021, Barbara Ferrara - current term: 2018-2021, Paige Flanagan - current term: 2017-2020, Sue LaParo - current term: 2017-2020, Virginia Pannabecker (Editor in Chief): 2018-2021, Sophie Rondeau - current term: 2018-2021, Lynda Wright – current term: 2018-2021

Editorial Board Updates:

● Paige Flanagan has accepted a position as the library director at Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA, so she will resign her editorial board position

● At this time, since we will still have a well-staffed board with 6 members, we will not need to have a call for a new board member

Current Journal Status:

● We are continuing to work with Virginia Tech Publishing and the VLA Executive Committee to get our new journal platform ready. It’s coming along and should be up to date with our policies, article types, etc. soon.

○ We are working through some final metadata / platform transition issues

● We are closing submissions and transferring remaining in-process articles for the current Volume 63 so that we can start our next Volume - 64, via the new platform

● Applying open licenses or fully copyrights to past articles

○ Since v.62 part of the publication process includes authors choosing an open license (Creative Commons) to apply to their article. The author/s keep the copyrights and grant a nonexclusive license to the journal to publish and distribute.

* V. 61 was a special issue and the authors kept the copyrights to the articles as well, licensing the journal to publish and distribute, but without open licenses. We’ve since contacted each author to ask their preference for a CC license and have received responses, so we’ll be adding those
* Prior to v.61, the journal seems to have held the copyright, but allowed anyone to read, use, and share journal articles for any educational or other purpose as long as it was not commercial.

Ginny proposed that VLA apply a CC BY NC ND (attribution, noncommercial, no derivatives) license to all articles prior to v. 61. Barbara Ferrera moved to accept this proposal. Jennifer Resor-Whicker accepted. The motion carried.

Outreach Planned for Summer/Fall:

* We have an updated VLA web page in the works
* VLA Conference proposal submitted for a Virginia Libraries journal editorial board panel, “Peace, Love, and a Sense of Accomplishment! Writing with Virginia Libraries!”
* Call for new submissions via our new journal platform
* Author Info Webinars - Intro to journal, submission, review, and publication process
* Peer Review call and training
* Indexing - Investigating additional indexing options (ERIC - Education research database)
* Twitter account - with new journal platform we will build out our social media presence

VLA Liaison to VAASL Board of Directors (report submitted by Kelly Miller)

*2019 Annual Conference*

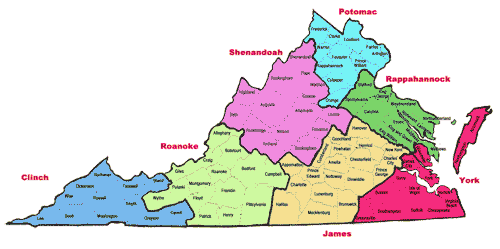
The first conference planning meeting took place at the Glen Allen Library on Saturday, February 23rd, 2019.

The VAASL conference will be November 7-9 at Hotel Roanoke. 2019 conference theme: Library Fusion. Conference website: <https://www.vaasl.org/annual-conference>

* Thursday General Session: Gina Seymour
* Friday General Session: Dr. Chris Harris
* Friday Awards Banquet: Candace Fleming
* Saturday Breakfast: Rafael Lopez

The conference is currently accepting proposals for concurrent sessions and the Idea Lab. Lisa recommended that VLA members submit proposals for the VAASL conference and noted how well VLA and VAASL work together on legislative concerns.

*Executive Director (Margaret Baker)*

2019 Spring Regional Conferences were held with the general theme of “Gearing for the Future.”

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| --- | --- |
| *Region* | *Date* |
| Shenandoah | 3/6/19 |
| James | 3/20/19 |
| Rappahannock | 3/7/19 |
| Clinch | 3/4/19 |
| Roanoke | 3/5/19 |
| York | 3/8/19 |
| Potomac | 3/9/19 |

VAASL Voice

• An additional mailing was done prior to spring regionals with final spring regional details.

*National Conferences and Activities*

AASL

The AASL conference will be held in Louisville, Kentucky November 14-16, 2019.

ALA Midwinter (February 2018)

Kendel Lively, VAASL president, and Patty Lambusta, VAASL president-elect, attended two Affiliate Assembly meetings.

Kelly Miller, the Intellectual Freedom Chair, is serving on an ALA State Ecosystem Initiative task force. Several Virginia school librarians are running for AASL and ALA positions. The ballot results have not been posted when I submitted my report.

*Committees*

Legislative

Rachel Lizan (Rachel.Lizan@vbschools.com), VAASL’s new Legislative chair, shared information regarding Connect Coalition and will provide members updated information. She would like to be in touch with VLA’s Legislative chair.

Professional Development

Judi Deichman and Jeff Discala, co-chairs, shared plans for two professional development sessions.

Summer Standards Splash, Vinton, VA– July 9, 2019

Setting the Standard for Diversity and Inclusion, Old Dominion Summer PD – July 16-17, 2019

The next VAASL Board Meeting is April 27, 2019.

Website Content

No report.

Youth Services Forum

Erica Testani reported. Erica Testani, Cammy Koch and region reps will have a Zoom meeting on April 16th. They will discuss making mini webinars, less than 30 minutes covering various aspects of Youth Services, not just story time. These will be available to be viewed any time. Cammy and Erica are discussing either a dinner or a pub crawl for Conference. Erica submitted a proposal for Conference to do a session about Young Adult Literature.

**Other Business**

Committees and Forums

Gregg would like to discuss changing the name of the Local History, Genealogy & Oral History Forum. Ideas will be presented to the June Executive Committee and voted at the June Council meeting.

Lisa asked Council to think about what other committee and forums they would like to see in VLA. With the new affiliate membership bringing in many more members, we may need to reexamine the traditional structure of our Committees and Forums. Memberclicks offers “circles” that could offer some additional conversation opportunities.

Special Interest Groups are a bit more flexible in they do not require leadership and can ebb and flow with trends. These groups could partner with current committees and forums as the need arises. Examples include Career Development, Library Management, Public Services, Technology, etc.

**Adjournment**

Jennifer Resor-Whicker moved to adjourn, and Todd Elliot seconded at 11:24 am.

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*Minutes prepared by Kayla Payne, VLA Secretary*