



**VLA Council Quarterly Meeting  
Fairfield Library  
Richmond, VA 23223  
June 9, 2023**

**Attendees**

*Executive Committee*

Kimberly Knight (President), Lisa Varga (VLA Executive Director), Kerri Copus (ALA Councilor), Nan Carmack (President-elect), and Rebecca Purdy (Secretary). K.T. Vaughan attended virtually.

*Council*

Kelsey Cheshire (Scholarship), Teresa Doherty (Nominating), and Debbie Pence (Professional Associates Forum). Nico D'Archangel (LGBTQIA+), Olivia Hasan (Librarians of Color Forum), Annie Hatton (Local and Family History), Clint Rudy (VALLA), Vanessa Salo (Cardinal Cup), Amy Sanders (VLA Administrative Assistant), Tom Shepley (Legislative Committee), Rekesha Spellman (Awards), Jennifer Stout (VLACRL), and Keith Weimer (Intellectual Freedom) attended virtually.

*Guests*

Cammy Koch. Maryke Barber, Gregg Grunow, and Vivian Washington attended virtually.

**Call to Order**

Kimberly Knight called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Secretary's Report**

Rebecca Purdy directed attention to the draft minutes from the April 21, 2023 Council meeting which were posted on the VLA website. Nan Carmack moved to approve the minutes; Kerri Copus seconded. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Lisa Varga presented the written 2023 Statement of Activities report. Lisa stated that Jobline is doing well and that institutional memberships are going strong. Lisa shared that while the costs have not yet been finalized there was a financial loss for the Professional Associates Conference.

**Executive Director's Report**

Lisa Varga reviewed her written report. Lisa directed the Council's attention to the recent and future presentations and interviews section of her report and encouraged libraries to reach out if they need assistance in their community.

**VLA Chapter Councilor to ALA Report**

Kerri Copus announced that ALA will be in Chicago in June and that there are two newly elected members of the Executive Board.

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### **Legislative Update**

There was no update.

### **Executive Committee Report**

Kimberly Knight announced that the Committee met yesterday and that it was a general meeting with no action taken

### **VLA Annual Conference**

Lisa Varga announced that conference plans are proceeding well and reminded the Council that the conference will start on Sunday this year and end on Tuesday. Lisa announced that there will once again be introvert and extrovert lounges available for use and that session notices were sent out in May. Lisa shared that food costs are higher than ever and that the cost of boxed lunches this year were priced at \$50; as a result VLA will be unable to offer a meal package such as has been available in years past.

### **2023 VLA Election – Candidate Statements**

K.T. Vaughan was unable to attend the meeting and Teresa Doherty introduced the candidates who shared their candidate statements. The statements will be posted on the website during the election period.

President (representing public or special libraries)

Cammy Koch, Henrico County Public Library  
Vivian Washington, Chesapeake Public Library

2nd Vice President (representing academic or special libraries)

Kelsey Cheshire, Virginia Commonwealth University  
Heather Hannan, University of Virginia

Treasurer (representing academic or special libraries)

Maryke Barber, Hollins University

### **Unit Reports**

#### **Committees**

*Awards and Recognitions:* Rekesha Spellman announced that the committee has received 39 nominations and that review of the nominations is still underway.

*Cardinal Cup:* Lisa Varga announced that ALA is working on a design for a Cardinal Cup seal and will be working on a method to distribute them to all libraries. Lisa added that Vanessa Salo has conducted a review of the books that were received by this year's committee and recommends that Cardinal Cup participation for the 2024 committee be pushed to the LGBTQIA+ and Librarians of Color Forums, as the percentage of books focusing on those lived experiences has been increasing.

*Intellectual Freedom:* Keith Weimer shared that the committee will be presenting two sessions at

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the VLA Annual Conference and that the committee has been presenting on intellectual freedom at library staff workshops around the state.

*Legislative Committee:* Tom Shepley shared there were no updates regarding the legislative session and that the committee will be presenting a panel discussion at the VLA Annual Conference.

*Nominating:* Teresa Doherty expressed gratitude to the candidates and encouraged everyone to vote in the upcoming election.

*Scholarship:* Kelsey Cheshire shared that the committee raised over \$2,000 at VLA Professional Associates and thanked everyone for participating.

## **Forums**

*Collections & Technical Services:* Not present.

*College & Research Libraries (VLACRL):* Jennifer Stout announced that there will be a virtual summer program in July on escaping toxic positivity.

*LGBTQIA+:* Nico d'Archangel announced that the forum hosted a successful virtual gaming event and that there will be a movie night in Richmond. Nico shared that the forum now has a social media manager.

*Librarians of Color:* Olivia Hasan announced that there was a brunch in Richmond and that Kelvin Watson, Director of Las Vegas libraries, will be a virtual guest speaker in July.

*Local & Family History:* Annie Hatton shared that attendance has been good and that the forum is working on trainings to post on Niche Academy.

*New Members Roundtable:* Not present.

*Professional Associates:* Debbie Pence shared that the first Professional Associates Conference in 5 years was held in April and that the forum is planning to hold regional workshops.

*Programming Forum:* Not present.

*Public Services Forum:* Not present.

*Virginia Libraries Journal:* Not present.

*Youth Services:* Not present.

## **Liaisons**

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*VAASL*: Not present

*VIVA*: Not present

### **Task Force:**

*Growing Libraries*: Kimberly Knight shared that the goal of this task force is to grow future library workers and that three meetings have been held thus far. The May/June VLA newsletter invited library workers to share their stories and encouraged Council to share the opportunity with their staff. Kimberly also revealed the draft of a bookmark that will be used to share information on working at libraries.

*VALLA*: Clint Rudy announced that work is almost complete and the task force anticipates presenting their report at the September Council meeting. He shared that the Hotel Madison in Harrisonburg will host VALLA in both 2024 and 2026

### **Other Business**

#### **MakerSpace Forum**

Nan Carmack announced that she has facilitated MakerSpace meetings since January and shared a proposal that VLA create a MakerSpace Forum. Nan announced that twenty-six VLA members signed on in support of the effort and that Gregg Grunow has agreed to Chair. Gregg Grunow pointed out that the signatures were from a mix of academic and public library employees.

Nico d'Archangel moved to create a MakerSpace Forum with Kelsey Cheshire seconding. The motion passed.

#### **Adjournment**

Kimberly Knight asked for a motion to adjourn. Kerri Copus moved to adjourn with Nan Carmack seconding. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

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Minutes prepared by Rebecca Purdy, VLA Secretary