



**VLA Council Quarterly Meeting
Zoom & Libbie Mill Branch Library
Henrico, VA
Friday, June 3, 2022, 10 a.m.**

Attendees

Executive Committee

K.T. Vaughan (President), Kimberly Knight (President-elect), Kyle Binaxas (Treasurer), Zach Elder (Second Vice President), Lisa Varga (VLA Executive Director), Lisa Broughman (Secretary)

Council

Jennifer Brown (Programming Forum), Cindy Church (Library of Virginia Liaison), Quettara Drayton (Scholarship Committee), Julia Feerrar (Editor, Virginia Libraries Journal), Stephanie Hardy (VLACRL), Margaret Howard (Continuing Education Committee), Paula Kiser (Website Content Committee), Kelly Miller (Virginia Association of School Librarians Liaison), Clint Rudy (Nominations Committee), Amy Sanders (VLA Administrative Assistant), Tom Shepley (Legislative Committee)

Guests

Phil Abraham (Legislative Report), Nan Carmack (Vice President/President-Elect Candidate), Angela Harvey (Vice President/President-Elect Candidate), Cammy Koch (Secretary Candidate), Rebecca Purdy (Secretary Candidate), Kerri Copus (ALA Councilor Candidate)

Call to Order

K.T. Vaughan called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Secretary's Report

Lisa Broughman submitted a draft of the April 22, 2022 Council meeting minutes. K.T. Vaughan moved to approve the minutes; Zach Elder seconded. The motion passed to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Kyle Binaxas reported that VLA sold more booths for the annual conference, bringing the revenue up to \$10,875. Jobline sales and memberships continue to increase, and we are almost at our goal for those budget lines. The Innovative Library Classroom (TILC) had an approximately \$2000 increase in income than was anticipated. There is a new line item in the budget for the Joint Conference for Librarians of Color (JCLC) program and administration expenses to cover the Librarians of Color travel grants. There has been an increase in endowment gains. There are still some outstanding invoices for VALLA.

Executive Director's Report

Lisa Varga provided a summary comparison of membership numbers between 2021 and 2022, and 100 Joblines have been posted this year. Lisa is working on recruiting volunteers for the joint VLA, District of Columbia Library Association, and Maryland Library Association booth at ALA, where

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volunteers will be handing out *Virginia is for Library Lovers* buttons. Lisa will co-lead the Chapters Leaders Forum at ALA on June 24, and VLA will collaborate with DCLA and MLA to co-host an event on June 23. Lisa also congratulated Patricial Kendalls of Norfolk Public Library and Babak Zarin of Central Rappahannock Regional Library for being named Library Journal Movers & Shakers; and Masuma Sarwar, who VLA sponsors as a 2022 ALA Emerging Leader.

Lisa reviewed the intellectual freedom issues in Virginia Beach, focusing on the lawsuit against the authors of *Gender Queer* and *A Court of Mist and Fury*. Kelly Miller provided additional updates on how things are unfolding in public schools statewide, including the FOIA request for the identities of librarians in Virginia Beach.

Legislative Report

Phil Abraham submitted his report ahead of the meeting but explained that the Commonwealth's objective is to fully fund state aid within four years. A total of \$5 million was put into the budget this year, and we should get the same amount in 2023. We will ask for a similar increase during the 2024 session for the new budget, which will bring us to full funding during the second year of that biennium. The next goal will be to discuss the formula for state aid to receive full funding. Phil continued to brief the Council on where libraries stand statewide regarding funding and legislation.

Executive Committee Report

K.T. Vaughan reported that much of the previous day's discussions for the Executive Committee focused on intellectual freedom challenges occurring across the state. K.T. announced the creation of a liaison position between VLA and VIVA (Virtual Library of Virginia) to facilitate conversation between the two groups; Lisa Broughman, the Chair of the VIVA Outreach committee, will serve as the VIVA Liaison. The Jefferson Cup committee proposes to rename the award to "The Cardinal Cup," and the Executive Committee plans to rename the George Mason award to the "Advocate Award." The Executive Committee also discussed ways to get more people involved in the VLA elections process, such as updating the VLA elections software and offering Zoom interviews with candidates that can be shared throughout the VLA membership. The Executive Committee also discussed ways for members to get more involved with VLA, such as offering a "VLA 101" session or offering the forums booth space at the conference.

VLA Annual Conference

Lisa Varga sent out acceptance or denial notifications to those who submitted conference proposals. There will be 77, 45-minute concurrent sessions with keynote speakers on each day of the conference. The conference will be held at the Norfolk Marriott on October 19-21, 2022. The costs include: \$149/night for the hotel, \$20/day for parking, and a \$240 conference registration fee. Registration will open in approximately two weeks. The sales for vendor booths at the conference is low, in part because they may be waiting until after ALA and in part because there have been many corporate mergers between our regular vendors.

Nominating Committee

Jennifer Resor-Whicker was unable to attend the meeting; in her place, Clint Rudy represented the

Committee in introducing the candidates for the following positions, who were invited to the Council meeting:

Vice President/President-Elect (representing academic or special libraries)

Angie Widener Harvey, UVA Wise
Nan Carmack, Library of Virginia

Secretary (representing public or special libraries)

Cammy Koch, Henrico County Public Library
Rebecca Purdy, Central Rappahannock Regional Library

ALA Councilor (representing public or special libraries)

Kerri Copus, Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library
Mike Mabe, Chesterfield County Public Library

Unit Reports

Committees

Awards and Recognitions: Not present. Deadlines for submitting nominations were extended to June 3, 2022.

Intellectual Freedom: Lisa Varga reported Easter DiGangi from Portsmouth Public Library is working on a Book Resume project to review ALA's most challenged books; VLA members will have password-protected access to the reviews, which they may find useful if there are challenges in their libraries.

Jefferson Cup: Not present.

Scholarship: Quettara Drayton reported the committee would continue updating their nomination forms and application process. Quettara also reminded Council of the upcoming basket raffle at the VLA Conference.

VALLA Task Force: Zach Elder reminded Council that the Continuing Education Committee was sunset due to the ongoing commitment of all committees and forums for providing continuing education opportunities. The committee chairs have tried to compile a diverse group of librarians to serve as task force members, which has begun meeting and planning for VALLA '24.

Website Content: Paula Kiser resumed her position as Chair of the committee and gave thanks to Amy Sanders for her help in juggling the intellectual freedom updates for the VLA website.

Forums

Collections & Technical Services: Not present.

LGBTQIA+: Christina Harris submitted the following report via email:

Art Contest Winners:

- 1st Place: "Queer Librarian Things" by Robert Solka
- 2nd Place: "Under the Moon" by Drea George
- 3rd Place: "Castle Puzzle Bookend" by Zavia Willis

Upcoming Events:

- Quarterly Meeting: Friday, June 10th @ 2pm
- Virtual Pride 'n Paint Event: Wednesday, June 15th @ 7pm

VA Pride Resources:

- [Virginia Pride Guide](#)
- [Eventbrite: VA Pride Festival Calendar](#)
- [ALA: Rainbow Book Month](#)
- [VDH- Resources for LGBTQ Youth](#)
- [Equality Virginia](#)

We recently put out a Pride Newsletter! Email the forum (vla.lgbtqia.forum@gmail.com) or join the listserv to stay updated on all thing PRIDE. Check out the committee's website for future updates and events.

Librarians of Color: Not present.

Local & Family History: Not present.

College & Research Libraries: Stephanie Hardy announced the summer program would be held on July 27 via Zoom. Tina Rollins will present on advancing EDI initiatives within the library and information sciences. The program is applicable and open to all librarians in Virginia, regardless of library type.

New Members Round Table: Zach Elder reported that VLA is still looking for people to help reinstate the NMRT Forum and has reached out to past-Chairs for assistance. Those who are interested should contact Zach or Lisa Varga.

Professional Associates: Not present.

Youth Services: Not present.

Programming: Jennifer Brown reported they still have a few problems engaging with members through the Slack channel.

Liaisons

Library of Virginia: Cindy Church read comments from Sandra Treadway in which she expressed her thanks to Phil Abraham for his work on securing funding from the state budget. Cindy also provided an update on the *LVA On the Road* project as part of the 200th Anniversary of the Library of Virginia, in which they plan to visit a public library in each of the Virginia Department of Education regions.

Virginia Libraries Journal: Julia Feerrar reported that the Journal will soon publish an article from Olivia Hassan about her fellowship experience from the previous summer.

Other Business

Lisa recognized the passing of two former library directors: Dr. Elizabeth Locher (Clifton Forge Public Library) passed on May 29, 2022, and Diana Rosapepe (Roanoke County Public Library) passed on May 30, 2022.

Adjournment

Cindy Church moved to adjourn the meeting; Kimberly Knight seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Lisa Broughman, VLA Secretary