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**In Attendance:**

Gwen Bird, Heather Compeau, Patricia Cumming, Allie Douglas, Annette DeFaveri, Tamarack Hockin, Christopher Kevlahan, Stephanie Kripps, Jeffrey Libby, Chris Middlemass, Heather Morrison, Tara Stephens, June Stockdale, Tara Williston, Ursula Brigl and Melanie Holden.

**Regrets:**

Fiona Chiu, Carla Graebner, Bev Braaten

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**1. Call to Order**

June Stockdale, BCLA President, called the meeting to order at 9:07 am. She requested that we add the following to the agenda: Introduction of New Board Members as Item 2 (a); Orientation of New Members as Item 2 (b); Allocation of Resources to website and Executive Director position as Item 6 (d).

**2. New Board Members**

- (a) **Introductions.** Each member present provided a brief introduction of their role on the Board, their place of work and any particular areas of expertise or interest.
- (b) **Orientation.** June, with the assistance of Christopher Kevlahan and other established members, provided a brief overview of the role of BCLA Board vs role of BCLA Office, and the reporting process for sections, subcommittees and similar communications. June indicated that an orientation package exists but is outdated. She and Annette are aware of the need to create an updated version. Christopher added that the BCLA constitution is worth reading as an orientation activity, as it outlines “who does what.”

**3. Adoption of Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda contained the following items:

- a) *Minutes of February 8th, 2012 Board Meeting*
- b) *Financial Statements (As distributed at AGM)*
- c) *Correspondence*
  - i. *To James Moore re:: Libraries and Archives Canada*
- d) *Press Releases*
  - i. *Provincial Government Budget Cuts*
  - ii. *2012 Conference*
  - iii. *CAP Funding cuts*
- e) *Consent Agenda Description*

***Moved by Chris Middlemass , Seconded by Christopher Kevlahan:***

THAT the consent agenda be approved and adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### **4. Adoption of Regular Agenda**

***Moved by June Stockdale, Seconded by Pat Cumming:***

THAT the regular agenda be approved as presented, with the addition of the items as outlined under Call to Order.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. Verbal Reports**

##### *a. Presidents' Report (June Stockdale)*

June emphasized that BCLA is experiencing a time of significant transition due to reduced funding, and that she believes BCLA should not reduce the service it offers its membership. She addressed the importance of maintaining continuity by making strategic, sustainable decisions and perhaps increasing collaboration with other organizations and drawing more heavily on existing un-tapped abilities within the membership.

June described the Advocacy Summit being arranged by Ken Haycock. Some Board members expressed concern that the post-secondary education sector will not be represented. Ken Haycock was responsible for invitations. The focus of the meeting will be on advocacy with funders. Post-secondary funding is distributed through a different model (university) so the specific approach Ken Haycock is talking about is not geared to university library funders. However, should the scope of the meeting change BCLA will lobby to broaden attendees.

##### *b. Executive Director's Report (Annette DeFaveri)*

Annette conveyed the generally positive feelings that participants expressed about the Conference 2012, but emphasized the importance of a longer planning lead-in time to reduce last-minute scrambling.

Annette is hoping that BCLA may be included in an upcoming Union of BC Municipalities event, which would help promote awareness of the role and importance of libraries in communities. If the proposal to participate is accepted, the event is in mid or late September.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the amount of time the Executive Director would devote to Conference planning. As noted above, this could be less if longer lead time were built in. However, maintaining accountability and oversight are still demanding roles even if less hands-on planning is required.

## 6. New Business

### a. *Mentorship Program Update*

Patricia Cumming provided an update on the pilot mentorship program, which generated a high degree of participation and interest at BCLA and at an information session at SLAIS. More information is in the report in the Board's meeting package. Discussion ensued regarding its future role in BCLA –committee vs program, etc; and whether / how this might overlap with a possible “ambassador” program for orienting new Board members. Kudos were expressed all around at the success of this pilot.

**Decision:** wait, as a number of other related structural questions are under review; and to first consolidate the mentorship before attempting to add in an ambassador component.

### b. *Accreditation of Lib Tech programs*

Jeffrey and Tamarack provided an overview of activity to date on this question. More information is in the report in the Board's meeting package. The next steps would be for LTAN to request that CLA create a Task Force on Design, to explore this further. They are requesting BCLA to prepare a letter of support in this regard. Questions and discussion ensued centering on the advantages of accreditation as well as factors or impacts that remain unknown or unexplored thus far, especially on smaller institutions.

**Decision:** BCLA cannot write a letter “supporting accreditation” as an outcome, but can write a letter supporting the process of further exploration.

**Action:** Tamarack and Annette will further discuss the appropriate wording of a letter and prepare a draft.

### c. *Interim Strategic Plan*

An extraordinary meeting was called to address this topic. Some of the key topics included advocacy, collaboration with other organizations, building awareness of the role and importance of libraries in general, professional development, and more proactive development of and communication with BCLA membership.

**Actions:** Board members who were not present at that meeting should review the minutes; Debbie Schachter took notes which will be pooled with the other notes; main headings in the report should be thought of as directional statements. At the next Board meeting, after reviewing all notes, the Board will discuss and decide how to move forward.

### d. *Allocation of Resources to website and Executive Director position*

June believes we are in a position right now in which it is appropriate to draw upon reserve funds. The need to improve website has been evident for a long time, but there has never been capacity to act on it. Without a website overhaul, the entire organization will be limited in its relevance to membership

and its ability to move forward strategically. Questions and discussion ensued regarding needs and process.

An external professional company would be required, rather than relying on SLAIS students or other volunteer help that can't be held accountable to deadlines or quality in the same way as commercial experts can.

**Action:** Annette will research potential website developers for phase two of redesign.

***Moved by Gwen Bird, Seconded by Pat Cumming:***

THAT the Board approve up to \$10,000 from reserves, to hire a firm to write specifications for redesign of the website.

**CARRIED**

June believes a strong Executive Director position is needed more than ever during this time of cutbacks and transition. Although the ED position was cut back, the workload remains. She proposes that reserve funds be used to increase the ED from 3 days per week to 4 until the end of 2012, totalling approximately \$6,000.

Questions and discussion ensued. Concern was expressed regarding the need for increased flexibility into how and when that time might be used. The suggested motion was amended and reworded to allow greater flexibility. It was clarified that this is a one-time temporary request; that even with hiring an outside agency for the Conference, and reducing other "hands-on" tasks, oversight and accountability are still highly time consuming. Mostly, discussion reflected that the organization (even libraries themselves) cannot stay relevant if there is no capacity for advocacy and creative, proactive engagement.

***Moved by Ursula Brigl, Seconded by Melanie Holden:***

THAT the Board approve increasing the salary of the Executive Director, from reserves, by the equivalent of one extra day per week, for the remainder of 2012 (\$300 per week x 20 weeks, which need not be used systematically each week; approximately \$6000).

**CARRIED**

## **7. Next Meeting**

Dates and times of upcoming meetings will be determined soon.

## **8. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.