

BCLA Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, September 12th, 2013
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
BCLA Boardroom: 150-900 Howe St.

Chair: Gwen Bird

In Attendance: June Stockdale, Myron Groover, Carla Graebner, Ursula Brigl Annette DeFaveri, Heidi Schiller, Allie Douglas, Sarah Stang, Caroline Daniels, Daphne Wood, Tamarack Hockin, Saara Itkonen, Leanna Jantzi, Heather Buzzell,

Recorder: Stephanie Kripps

Regrets: Chris Middlemass, Danielle Wing.

1. Call to Order (Gwen Bird)

Gwen called the meeting to order at 9:05 and noted that new student representatives from Langara and UFV Lib Tech programs will be identified soon. All members present introduced themselves. Danielle Wing will be representing SLAIS.

2. Adoption of Consent Agenda

MOVED BY Daphne, seconded by Myron: that the consent agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

Gwen added her thanks and appreciation for the excellent work of the Mentorship Committee as reflected in their report in the consent agenda package.

3. Adoption of Regular Agenda

MOVED BY Tamarack, seconded by Saara: that the regular agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Verbal Reports

(a) President's Report (Gwen Bird)

Gwen and Annette met with the president and the Executive Director of the BC Library Trustees Association, discussing primarily the 2014 conference and in what ways the date change may affect Trustee participation. There was also general discussion regarding the best ways to incorporate sessions by (and for) trustees into future conferences, and the value that their perspective can add to sessions for general library workers. If no conference sessions are proposed on these kinds of topics, the Conference Planning Committee will actively solicit them. Important to also remember that trustees enjoy and benefit from the general sessions as well, not just the sessions targeting trustees.

Gwen and Annette met by teleconference with The Partnership. Discussions included the Job Board, the Education Institute and the Partnership Journal. There is interest in

beginning a National mentoring program and the Partnership is looking to BCLA's as a model and example.

BCLA will prepare an official response to submit to the Government panel (Royal Society of Canada Expert Panel on "The Status and Future of Canada's Libraries and Archives) which is exploring the future of libraries and Archives and will attend some of the public sessions.

Defining and clarifying roles of Board members will be a task Gwen works on over the next several months. This will support the work of the strategic plan and make it easier to recruit new members.

Gwen accompanied the Conference Planning Committee on an interesting site visit. The hosts were very welcoming.

b) Executive Director's Report (Annette DeFaveri)

An exciting grant proposal has just been submitted to the Vancouver Foundation, growing out the results of a major survey of the library-related needs and services of people with disabilities. The Special Needs Interest Group worked several community organizations who have agreed to partner in this endeavour. If approved by the Vancouver Foundadtion, the one-year project would begin January 2014 and deliverables will include a toolkit and a webinar, video or other interactive learning component. Annette thanked Deb Thomas, Margarete Weidmann and Shelley Hourston for their work. It represents a new direction for BCLA and supports aspects of the strategic plan such as professional development, collaborative planning and community partnerships.

Website: Partnership Job Board component expected to be complete and operating by end of September. Further refinements to the conference section will be in place for 2014 registration. The new BCLA website is aiming for official launch in January 2014. Annette thanked Caroline for her work on the monumental task of content migration, which will include identifying and prioritizing content in need of updating.

BCLA will again provide input at the Union of BC Municipalities annual conference collaboratively with BCLTA (BC Library Trustees' Association) ABCPLD (Association of BC Public Library Directors) and BCLC (BC Libraries Cooperative).

Activities and strategies in support of Truth and Reconciliation are being discussed this week by the First Nations Interest Group. Annette also acknowledged Beth Davies, Nancy Hannum and Sarah Dupont of the FNIG for supporting the Bella Bella library after its fire, particularly for the thoughtful way they asked what the community wanted and needed, rather than rounding up materials that may not be appropriate.

Annette reiterated Gwen's earlier comments on the importance of defining and clarifying Board members roles.

Conference 2014 plans are underway. Call for session proposals will go out approximately September 19 and remain open until mid-November. Currently 3 keynote speakers of substantial reputation beyond the library sphere are considering participation.

Booking office space in the People's Law School may be temporarily difficult due to staffing and budget changes on their end.

Carla, Myron and Joe have prepared and submitted BCLA's contribution to Canada's Action Plan on Open Government. They note that contributions from individual citizens are still being accepted, deadline extended by one week.

5. New Business

a) Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, Letter (Carla Graebner)

Carla provided background on the letter and the remaining questions. Suggested action is that Carla and Myron continue to work with Annette on developing a BCLA Policy Statement toward Library and Archives Canada; once complete, this policy statement can be sent along with a welcoming letter and invitation for further discussion. Annette adds that strategies such as a simultaneous media release may be needed in order for the communiqués to receive attention. It is also important to remember that letters from private citizens may get more attention than letters from organizations and groups. BCLA members as individuals can write to the Minister.

b) Proposal for Developing the Browser (Leanna Jantzi)

Leanna provided additional background on the report and recommendations included in the Board package. Target dates are not presently included in the recommendations and the plan is ambitious – it will be a long-term project. Questions from members regarded format and platform, what aspects can be supported (eg photos, archiving, sponsor logos, automatic usage statistics, ability for readers to comment on articles). Annette added that improving and expanding the role of the Browser and increasing its readership can support many of the goals in the strategic plan.

MOVED BY Carla, seconded by Myron, that the Board approve the recommendations made in the Proposal for Developing the Browser.

CARRIED

c) Proposal for additional staffing hours for 2013 (Gwen Bird/Annette DeFaveri)

The main purpose of this proposal is to free up the time of the Executive Director for activities suitable to that level. The funding would come from the 15% administrative fee from Summer Reading Club which had not been accounted for in previous budget reports. Proposed position is temporary, although if successful it could be renewed for

2014, budget permitting. Costs to configure office space to accommodate new person would be minimal.

MOVED BY Ursula, seconded by Caroline, that the Board approve the proposal. A friendly amendment indicates that voting is on Proposal One, 30 hours per week.

CARRIED

d) Core Values, Mission and Vision Statements (Gwen Bird)

Input from membership, gathered at the conference on boards in the lobby, has been consolidated. Gwen suggests that a working group craft the key concepts into a few choices, then hold an open house sometime in the last two weeks of November, where interest groups and members could discuss the options and vote on them. Final proposal will come to the Board for December meeting.

Sarah also mentioned the possibility of a “cause statement” which grows out of mission, vision and values but can be more accessible and effective at day-to-day levels.

Gwen will follow up with the five Board members who volunteered to join this working group.

e) IFC Chair (Gwen Bird)

Two individuals have put their names forward to co-chair the Intellectual freedom Committee: Justin Unrau and David Waddell. Myron (confirmed by June) noted that the Bylaws as amended do not require Board approval of new committee chairs. If the IFC or any others are exceptions, this needs to be addressed at the next AGM.

6. Next Meeting Date and Closing Remarks (Gwen Bird)

December 3rd Agenda will be mainly concerned with reviewing and discussing budget.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch catered from Potluck Café Society.