

Minutes

BCLA Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 18 April 2008 9:00am

Best Western Richmond Hotel & Convention Centre

7551 Westminster Highway

Richmond, BC

1. Call to order:

D. Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

2. Establishment of Quorum (V. Charron):

Quorum established.

3. Announcement of Parliamentarian:

D. Thomas announced T. Mundle as Parliamentarian.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve Agenda as presented:

U. Benoit; seconded by S. Hall. Carried.

5. Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting, Saturday April 21st 2007 (published in June/July 2007 Reporter)

Motion to accept minutes of 2007 Annual General Meeting as presented:

S. Roberts; seconded by L. Dieno. Carried.

6. 2007/2008 Annual Report:

Motion to accept draft of 2007/2008 Annual Report as presented:

I. Kehoe; seconded by J. Spurrell. Carried.

7. Membership Secretary's Report (V. Charron):

- BCLA Membership increased over 2007/08 year
- Membership Committee worked to resurrect Ambassador Program in 2007/08
- Membership Committee worked on Strategic Plan initiatives in 2007/2008

Motion to accept Membership Report:

S. Roberts; seconded by C. Middlemass. Carried.

8. Treasurer's Report (K. Nelson):

- 2007 Financial Statements:

- Thank you to M. Burris and R. Avigdor for making Treasurer's job easier in 2007/2008. This is a great job.
- BCLA is earning interest due to grants running through its accounts; membership increase has provided more revenue. 2007 Conference revenue was good; 2008 Conference revenue looks good thus far.
- BCLA is in a very healthy financial position.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented:

K. Nelson; seconded by C. Middlemass. Carried.

- Appointment of Auditor

Motion to appoint firm of Collins Barrow Chartered Accountants as Auditor for 2008/2009:

K. Nelson; seconded by U. Deino. Carried.

9. Nominations Committee Report (I. Kehoe):

- Election results: all positions were filled by acclamation
- Incoming Board Members for 2008/2009:
 - Vice President/President Elect: Ken Cooley (UVic)
 - Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer Elect: Christina de Castell (VPL)
 - Membership Secretary: Sandra Wong (SFU)
 - Director of Conference (2-Year): Heather Compeau (UCFV)
- Continuing Board Members
 - Incoming President: Lynn Jordon
 - Past President: Deb Thomas
 - Treasurer: Stephanie Hall
 - Director of Conference: Chris Middlemass
 - YAACs Chair : Vicki Donoghue/Chris Kevlahan
 - ALPS Chair: Ophelia Ma
 - Recording Secretary: Natalie Fouquette
 - Reporter Editor: TBA
 - Ted Benson is retiring; position is open.
 - Continuing Education Chair: Heather Scoular
- Thanks extended to the 2007/2008 outgoing Board members:
 - Trish Rosseel (Director of Conference)
 - Katy Nelson (Treasurer)
 - Virginia Charron (Membership Secretary)
 - Sylvia Roberts (ALPS Chair)
 - Inba Kehoe (Past President)

Motion to accept incoming Board members:

E. Fairey; seconded by J. Conatser. Carried.

- D. Thomas led a round of applause for T. Benson, for his years of service as the BCLA Reporter Editor; for 2008 Conference organizers; for BCLA staff M. Burris and A. Douglas; and for Best Western Richmond Hotel Staff.

Motion to destroy ballots: waived as all incoming Board members were elected by acclamation.

10. President's Report (D. Thomas):

- Detailed President's Report is available in the 2008 Annual Report.
- This year has been educational, challenging, and rewarding.
- Membership has grown, we have made progress on Strategic Plan
- Sections Committees and Interest Groups have done much work.
- D. Thomas has heard how well-regarded BCLA is in the national library community. The Board is hardworking and efficient; thanks to all!
- D. Thomas is ready to pass on the torch to the incoming President, L. Jordon.
- Thanks to M. Burris and A. Douglas for all their hard work.

11. Resolutions (T. Mundle):

- A Resolutions Committee was established in 2007/2008 to facilitate the process of making resolutions available to the membership for review prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Resolutions Committee for 2007/2008 was chaired by BCLA Past President I. Kehoe; it was comprised of members from the Information Policy Group and the Intellectual Freedom Committee. The Resolutions Committee met to review resolutions for this Annual General Meeting, and has put together resolutions for review by membership in advance of the meeting.
- For details, background, and exact wording of 2008 Resolutions, refer to documents posted on the BCLA website.

1. Resolution on TILMA and AIT:

- Comments: J. Davis: TILMA was discussed at last year's Annual General Meeting, and a resolution to oppose it was passed at that time. The current resolution calls for a specific exemption for libraries from these trade agreements, recognizes the newer threat of the AIT, and calls for BCLA to be much more active on these issues.

Motion to accept resolution on TILMA and AIT:

J. Davis; seconded by C. Graebner. Carried.

2. Resolution on CanWest and Free Speech

- Comments: J. Davis: A parody criticising the pro-Israel bias in reporting in *The Vancouver Sun* was published under false *Sun* banner. Activist Mordecai Briemberg is being sued by CanWest over the presentation of

this parody, but he was not involved in the production of the parody. He distributed a few copies.

J. Spurrell: What crime is he [M. Briemberg] being accused of?

J. Davis: Trademark violation.

Question: Is the Resolution watering down the issue by including so many other issues in its wording?

Answer: No, it simply directs the Board to draft a letter to CanWest opposing the lawsuit.

The language of the writ was discussed; basically the objection of the plaintiffs is that the defendant criticised and disagreed with the plaintiff.

The rhetorical question was asked: if individuals can be sued for criticising and disagreeing with the press, what becomes of free speech?

Motion to accept the Resolution on CanWest and Free Speech:

J. Davis; seconded by S. Iseli-Otto. Carried.

3. Resolution on Network (Net) Neutrality

Comments: D. Grayson: Net Neutrality has been in the headlines lately due to issues the CBC has had with its consumer download content being slowed by ISPs. It also has a longer history; in the past, Telus has slowed access to content it considered anti-Telus. The intention of this resolution is to give BCLA a formal position statement, so we can respond to the issue of net neutrality in the future in any public forum.

Motion to accept the Resolution on Network (Net) Neutrality

D. Grayson; seconded by T. Robertson. Carried.

- D. Thomas led a round of applause to thank the Resolutions Committee.

12. Other Business:

- U. Brigl: Kootenay Library Federation is planning its first-ever conference, 12-14 June 2008, in Cranbrook. The KLF wishes to invite everyone to this conference. It is an opportunity for libraries in the interior to learn together. More information can be found on the KLF's website.

13. Incoming President's Report (L. Jordon):

- 2008/09 will be an exciting year.
- Some challenges:
 - the search to replace M. Burriss as BCLA Executive Director as he moves to his new position as Exec Director at Interlink. The goal is to have a new Executive Director in place by July/August.

- Completing items in the Strategic Plan, such as Communication: (replacing T. Benson as editor of the *BCLA Reporter*); looking again at the structure of the Board and of the organization.
- L. Jordon looks forward to hearing from all this year.
- L. Jordon thanked 2007/08 President D. Thomas and presented her with a gift on behalf of BCLA.

14. Adjournment

S. Roberts.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.