

KPLA Business Meeting
Thursday, October 14, 2021
2:00 PM CDT/ 3:00 PM EDT

In attendance: Jessica Powell, Jenni Link, Mary Ann Abner, JC Morgan, Lee Burchfield, Mark Adler, Rachel Smith, Christian Shroll, Lindsey Westerfield, Christina Cornelison, Terry Manuel, Jean Ruark, Audrea Ann Fiese Clairmont, Stacy Faulkner, Aimee Newberry

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM EDT/2:00 PM CST.

After a review of the minutes, JC made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Lee seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

In new business, Jessica called for names for the next Treasurer. Jenni's term expires in October 2022. The ongoing transition to KLA self-mangement makes it essential that a Treasurer-Elect be identified so that s/he can begin training with Jenni.

Officer Reports

Outgoing Chair- *Jessica L. Powell, Oldham County Public Library* – KLA reported that KPLA membership is down by approximately 200 members. It is possible that the decline is due, in part, to the necessity to move the Spring 2021 conference to an entirely online format. The 2022 Spring Conference is still planned as an in-person event, but hybrid conferences may become the norm in the post-COVID landscape. KPLA is committed to working to provide in-person events as often as possible because a great number of members have indicated they prefer that format.

There are plans to talk to smaller libraries to see how the new certification rules have affected the way they gather continuing education credits. Do the new rules mean that fewer people need to attend conferences in order to gain or renew their certification?

Jessica's goal to fully inform the membership has been realized. All of the minutes of the various KPLA meetings are up to date and on the kpla.org website.

Incoming Chair- *Lindsey Westerfield, Russell County Public Library* – Jessica expressed thanks to Jessica for extraordinary leadership during a very difficult two years which included cancellation of the Spring 2020 conference due to the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic. Jessica further provided extraordinary leadership through unprecedented times during her year as Chair while the whole world learned to work in an entirely online environment.

Lindsey announced her initiative for the 2021-2022 year: "Why? Who? What?"

"Why?" is "membership engagement." A new Engagement Committee/Engagement Chair is under development. For now, Rob Gieszl will serve as the Temporary Chair of the Engagement Committee while it is being defined.

"Who?" calls for getting clear on committee and officer leadership (especially the need for a Treasurer-Elect) and ensuring that everyone who participates in KPLA is fully-informed about their responsibilities.

"What?" is undertaking a revision of the Blue Book. The Executive Committee identified several areas which are outdated.

Treasurer- *Jenni Link, Paris-Bourbon County Public Library* – Jenni presented the financials. She reported that there has been a delay in some of the final numbers from KLA because of their transition to self-management. The KPLA Spring 2021 Conference was the first big event for which Member Clicks was used, and some of the financials are still being finalized. Income has exceeded expectations, though. 2021 overall income is ahead of budget over the first three quarters. Continuing Education is overbudget due to an Executive Committee decision to approve additional funds in order to bring Ryan Dowd to Kentucky for three regional trainings.

Secretary- *Mary Ann Abner, Jessamine County Public Library* – A prior decision by the Executive Committee to extend Jenni's term as Treasurer by one year, meant that the terms of both the Treasurer and Secretary were set to expire in October 2022. To avoid losing two Executive Officers at the same time, the Executive Committee extended Mary Ann's term by one year. Now, Jenni's term will expire in October of 2022 and Mary Ann's in October of 2023.

Future Conferences

March 16-18, 2022- Bowling Green- *Rachel Smith, Louisville Free Public Library, Conference Chair* -- The Spring 2022 conference – “Navigating Our Way Forward Together” -- has changed its format to include a full day of sessions on Friday instead of the traditional half-day on Friday. Thursday will still be a full conference day, and Wednesday will remain a preconference day. Conference speakers include Leah Brown, Jason Reynolds, and Sonia Manzano.

March 29-31, 2023- Owensboro- *Jessy Griffith, Kenton County Public Library, Conference Chair*

March 20-22, 2024- Owensboro

Committee Reports

Advocacy- *Jean Ruark, Paul Sawyer Public Library* – Legislative Day is tentatively scheduled for February 3, 2022, at the State Capitol in Frankfort.

Continuing Education- *Christina Cornelison, Madison County Public Library* – The statewide Ryan Dowd trainings are upcoming. There are 3 training sites, each hosting 50 people. The committee aims to keep offering regional trainings to more widely serve the state's public librarians.

Intellectual Freedom – *Mary Landrum, Lexington Public Library* – The committee has several new members. Issues surrounding youth privacy are the committee's top priority.

Standards- *Jennifer Nippert, Bullitt County Public Library* – The committee is meeting monthly. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed what essential library services are in practice. so the committee is looking at community and library needs relative to our changing landscape. The committee also endorses the provision of training for public libraries on what it takes to reach Essential status.

Jessica lowered her gavel one last time at 3:35 PM EDT/2:35 PM CDT to adjourn the meeting.