

OHIO LIBRARY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OLC Offices
Nov. 18, 2022
10:00 A.M.

- PRESENT Kacie Armstrong, Euclid (virtual)
Sarah Clevidence, Findlay
Aimee Fifarek, Youngstown
Carol Herrick, Centerville
Mary Ellen Icaza, Canton (virtual)
Cheryl Kuonen, Mentor
Melissa Marolt, New Lexington
Rick Rubin, Cuyahoga Falls
Chad Seeberg, Marysville
Jennifer Slone, Chillicothe
Laura Lee Wilson, Huron County, Willard
- ABSENT Paula Brehm-Heeger, Cincinnati
Rick Rubin, Cuyahoga Falls
Tom Dillie, Minerva
- GUESTS Kathy Bach, Cincinnati, Incoming Board Member
Julianne Bedel, Medina, Incoming Board Member
Robbie Jenkins, Gallipolis, Incoming Board Member
Wendy Knapp, State Library of Ohio
Nick Tepe, ALA Councilor (virtual)
- GUESTS ABSENT Don Yarman, OPLIN
- STAFF Michelle Francis, Executive Director
Jeanine D’Andrea, Director, Membership Services
Angie Jacobsen, Director, Communications
Denise Kise, Accounting/Data Services
Laurie Miller, Director, Professional Development
Jay Smith, Director, Government and Legal Services
- CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Wilson at 10:09 a.m. Wilson asked incoming members of the Board to introduce themselves.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA HERRICK MOVED AND SEEBERG SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Wilson noted there was a revised agenda with the addition of Item 4C. – Awards & Honors Committee feedback. She also noted there were Executive Session minutes in Board members’ packet only.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES CLEVIDENCE MOVED AND HERRICK SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 16 MINUTES WITH ONE CHANGE NOTED – REMOVE VIRTUAL FROM JENNIFER SLONE’S ATTENDANCE. MOTION PASSED WITH 12 YES VOTES AND 1 ABSTENTION. (Rubin)

MAROLT MOVED AND CLEVIDENCE SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 16 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED WITH 12 YES VOTES AND 2 ABSTENTIONS. (Rubin and Seeberg)

FINANCIAL REPORT
MONTH-END –
SEPTEMBER 2022

Francis presented the Financial Report: Month-End September 2022.

Revenue: Institutional Dues are almost \$34,000 over budget. The formula has been in place since 2011 and is capped at \$15,000. Sixteen libraries are currently at the cap based on their 2021 PLF distribution and local property tax receipts. The cap has not changed in 10 years. The Finance Committee of the Board will be discussing this as work on the 2023 OLC Operating Budget begins. OLC sent a survey to Institutional Libraries for feedback specifically related to the services that are tied to the Institutional Dues. Personal memberships over budget by \$12,877. Contract income is under, but a check was received this week from the Sourcing Alliance/Equalis Group.

Other income – Our Unrealized Gain/(Loss) reflects a downturn in the market of approximately \$170,000.

Expenses: Salaries and benefits are under budget due to unutilized vacation. Consultants are under budget mostly due to timing of payments for Legal Services. Communications is under budget due to decrease in mailings. Printing and design is under budget. Space rental is under budget due to temporary reduction in office rental payments. Bank service fees are over budget due to increased attendance/registration and credit card transactions.

The net change in assets is \$5,874.

HERRICK MOVED AND SEEBERG SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BOARD MEETING DATES

The proposed 2023 Board meeting dates are as follows:
Jan. 20, Mar. 10, May 19, July 14, Sept. 15, and Nov. 17.

FIFAREK MOVED AND RUBIN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED 2023 BOARD MEETING DATES. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

RATIFICATION OF
COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS

CLEVIDENCE MOVED AND SLONE SECONDED THE RATIFICATION OF OLC COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY

Francis noted that Juneteenth was added by both the state of Ohio and the federal government to the list of formally recognized holidays.

SLONE MOVED AND MAROLT SECONDED APPROVAL OF ADDING JUNETEENTH TO THE OLC PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL AND EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AS A PAID HOLIDAY FOR OLC STAFF. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONVENTION & EXPO
RECAP

Francis thanked the Board for their attendance at the Convention and Expo. She noted that the Convention Center in Toledo (the Glass City Center) was not prepared, and the construction was not completed in time for OLC's Convention and Expo. Thanks was also given to the OLC staff and volunteers who were amazing. OLC has had conversations with the Glass City Center regarding final payments and negotiations. Miller noted that we had more vendors this year. Sponsorship increased as well.

2023 PLANNING AND LEADERSHIP KICKOFF

Francis reported on the 2023 Planning and Leadership Kickoff that took place on Nov.16. This is when OLC Committees and Divisions come together and share program planning ideas, housekeeping, etc. The event was held virtually this year with a Kickoff. OLC is trying to be considerate of library staff time, so a live 1.5-hour virtual Kickoff was held. Individual committees and divisions then had the flexibility to schedule their own meetings between now and December 9th based on their individual schedules.

OLC AWARDS AND HONORS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

Francis reported the Board of Directors accepted recommendations from the OLC Awards and Honors Committee at their Sept. 16 Board meeting. However, additional action needs to be taken regarding next steps between now and January 2023 to meet the Awards program timeline for 2023.

RUBIN MOVED AND KUONEN SECONDED TO FORM AN AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AWARDS AND HONORS COMMITTEE AND THE NEXT STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Members interested in serving on the Ad Hoc Committee include Kuonen, Herrick, Icaza and Clevidence.

STATE OF OLC 2022

Francis gave an overview of the 2022 State of OLC.

Advocacy - PLF is expected to increase CY 2022 to \$490 million; Legislative Day; State Representatives attending Trustee Dinners.

Education – 41% increase in paid attendance. Adult Services and Reference Conference; Library Management and Leadership Conference; Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Conference.

Collaboration – Governor’s Imagination Library; COSI Learning Lunchboxes; Ohio Secretary of State; Ohio Dept of Health; Ohio Department of Education; BroadbandOhio; Ohio BUILDS Appalachian Community Grant; Diverse Library Leaders Meeting; Small Libraries Forum.

Communication – Legal/Statehouse Updates; Press Releases, What’s Happening in PLs; This Week; Access Weekly; Division Newsletters.

What’s Ahead? 2023 is a state budget year. OLC will hold two stand-alone conferences – Youth Services and Library Facilities. Internally, OLC will be researching Association Management Software, possible increase in Institutional Dues. Wilson thanked Francis for the overview.

VICE-CHAIR REPORT

Wilson thanked Armstrong, Seeberg and Brehm-Heeger for their service to the Board. She noted she personally enjoyed working with them. She welcomed Bach, Bedel, and Jenkins.

OLC BOARD OFFICER NOMINATIONS 2023

The Executive Committee of the board met to put forward names for 2023 Vice Chair and Secretary-Treasurer. The Committee submits the following nominations for the officers of the 2023 OLC Board of Directors: Sarah Clevidence as Vice Chair and Mary Ellen Icaza as Secretary-Treasurer. They have accepted the nominations. The nominations remain open through the January Board meeting. The vote will take place at the Jan. 20 Board meeting.

OLC BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The proposed assignments for the 2023 Committees of the Board were presented. Any member requesting changes should notify Wilson or Francis by Dec. 31. Approval of the Committee assignments will take place at the Board meeting on Jan. 20, 2023.

BOARD LIAISON

The proposed Board Liaison assignments for 2023 were presented.

ASSIGNMENTS

Any member requesting changes should notify Wilson or Francis by Dec. 31. Approval of the Board Liaison assignments will take place at the Board meeting on Jan. 20, 2023.

ALA COUNCILOR REPORT

In addition to his written report, Tepe reported on the following:

ALA Governance. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee released the second draft of the new bylaws. It seems that there are still some councilors who would like to see changes made to the framework that was adopted by Council over the course of the past year.

Challenges. Book challenges continue to be in the forefront of discussions within ALA. One of the most significant in the last few months has been an administrative rule proposed in Missouri that would prevent libraries from using state funds “to purchase or acquire inappropriate materials in any form that appeal to the prurient interest of a minor,” and would also require libraries “to honor a parent’s right to challenge a library’s age-appropriate designation for any material.”

ALA Presidential Candidates for 2024-25 Term. The ALA Nominating Committee named two nominees to contend in the upcoming election for ALA president. Cindy Hohl, Kansas City Public Library (Missouri) and Eric Suess, Marshall Public Library (Idaho).

STATE LIBRARY REPORT

In addition to her written report, Knapp reported on the following:

STATE LIBRARY 5-YEAR PLAN. The State Library of Ohio Board completed the 5-year plan which goes into effect October 2023.

LSTA Competitive Grants. Applications for an Ohio LSTA Competitive Grant deadline is Nov. 14.

Recognition. Beverly Cain was recognized for her Years of Service on Oct. 26.

OPLIN REPORT

A written report was provided in Yarman’s absence.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

In addition to her written report, Francis reported on the following:

OLC Budget. The Finance Committee of the Board will be meeting in early January.

Diverse Library Leaders. An informal conversation with diverse library leaders from across our membership was held on Nov. 14. Francis thanked Kacie Armstrong for organizing the meeting to hear from membership.

Board Orientation. Francis held Board orientation meetings with Bedel, Jenkins and Bach. The onboarding covered a variety of topics, including their roles on the Board, fiduciary responsibilities, etc.

At Home COVID Testing Kits. OLC has been working with the ODH as they adjust their testing distribution strategy moving forward.

Small Libraries Virtual Discussion Forum. The Small Libraries Division will host an online discussion forum for Library Directors on Dec. 2. The division held three in-person regional forums in August and September. The discussion included an update on OLC activities, legislative issues and library funding.

Staff Anniversaries.

Jay Smith – 3 years on Nov. 18

Sandy Diosy – 7 years on Nov. 2

Beth Ann Yablonski – 7 years on Oct. 19

Ohio Builds Grants. The \$500-million Appalachian Community Grant Program is part of Governor DeWine's "OhioBUILDS – Small Communities, Big Impact – A Plan for Appalachia. Ohio has 64 libraries within Appalachia who may be eligible.

Reception. Francis attended a reception for Bill Morris and Beverly Cain at the State Library of Ohio.

NEORLS Partnership. OLC partnered with NEORLS and joined forces on their IT Conference.

GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL
SERVICES REPORT

In addition to his written report, Smith reported on the following:

PLF Update. The most recent distribution came in over \$3.55 million above ODT's original estimate. The PLF Calendar Year 2022 year-to-date total is \$459,159,767 which exceeds ODT's estimates by \$55 million (+13.6%).

Library Levy Results. The unofficial results from Tuesday's election indicate that 18 out of the 19 public library ballot issues were approved. The one loss was extremely close and provisional and absentee ballots still need to be counted. OLC will continue to monitor the election results.

Election Results. Republicans continue to have solid control at all three branches of government following the 2022 Ohio General Election. In the Ohio House, Republicans now hold a supermajority. The Ohio Senate Republicans gained an additional seat bringing the Republican majority to 26-7.

Update on ODH Free Rapid Covid Tests. OLC sent out an update to members and continues to work with the Governor's testing team. We will advise libraries if there are any changes to the distribution formulas from the state.

Road Ahead Tour. Throughout the month of October, the Road Ahead Tour made 13 stops around the state to discuss our strategy in advocating for library funding. OLC is encouraging library directors to reach out to their state representatives and senators to educate decision-makers on the partnership we have with the state of Ohio through the Public Library Fund.

Legislative Day 2023. OLC Legislative Day is scheduled for April 26, 2023 at the Statehouse Atrium and Rotunda.

Lame Duck Session. Lame Duck session began on Nov 16.

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT REPORT

In addition to her written report, Miller reported on the following:

2022 Convention and Expo. There were 623 people in attendance. 100% of evaluations said app was a valuable tool. 79% rated the overall quality of their C&E experience as a 4 or 5, 19% rated it as a 3; OLC received a discount from the Glass City Center and will be receiving a rebate check from Destination Toledo for our group's sleeping rooms. All keynote speakers received good comments; Gathering Volumes Bookstore did an excellent job.

2023 Convention. The Convention and Expo will be held at the Duke Energy Convention Center. The theme is “Stronger Together.” The call for programs opened at the 2023 Planning and Leadership Kickoff. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 6.

Professional Development. The PDC has 13 members on the roster and liaisons will be chosen at the beginning of December for the various OLC Divisions & Committees.

2023 Stand-Alone Conferences

Call for chairs closed Nov. 11. The Youth Services Conference will be held in-person at the end of March in Eastern/Central Ohio. The Library Facilities Conference will be held in-person in Central Ohio in July of 2023. Francis thanked Miller for her work on the Convention.

COMMUNICATIONS
REPORT

In addition to her written report, Jacobsen reported on the following:

Convention and Expo. There was an increase in the number of active users on the mobile app. Speakers were able to upload their slides and handouts through the app. Attendees could rate speakers, sessions and exhibitors. Also, there was good media coverage of the event from the Toledo Blade.

2023 Planning and Leadership Kickoff. Leadership resources were updated and posted to the OLC website. An evaluation form was created to collect feedback about the new format.

OLC Website. How to Access LinkedIn Learning was #2 on the website. What’s Happening in Public Libraries was #4.

Francis thanked Jacobsen for her work especially on the Leadership Resources and Convention.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES
REPORT

In addition to her written report, D’Andrea reported on the following:

2022 Individual Membership. The final individual membership total for 2022 was 2375 in comparison to the 2021 final total of 2216. D’Andrea thanked Roger Donaldson, Chair of the 2022 Membership Committee, and other members of the committee for their hard work. D’Andrea thanked all Board members who attended the New Member Meet and Greet at the Convention.

2023 Individual Membership. The first renewal notice is in print and is scheduled to be sent to the mail house on Nov. 22. An OLC sticker will be included in the renewal as a thank you for their continued support.

New Member Referral Program. The New Member Referral Program was announced in the Oct. 26 and Nov. 9 issues of Access. The winner of the raffle will receive a \$50 credit towards OLC continuing education for the 2023 calendar year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Wilson presented gifts and expressed our appreciation and thanks to Chad Seeberg, Kacie Armstrong and Paula Brehm-Heeger for their service on the OLC Board of Directors.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Jan. 20, 2023. A decision will be made at a later date if it will be in-person or virtual. Jason Elvers will attend to discuss the Duty of Care and Fiduciary responsibilities.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.