



**Arkansas Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
Friday, April 9, 2021, 9:00 AM  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**Executive Board in attendance:** Carol Coffey, Crystal Gates, Emily Rozario, Ron Russ, President Philip Shackelford, Rachel Shankles, Treasurer Lynn Valetutti, Lacy Wolfe, Jennifer Wann

- I. **Call to Order** – President Philip Shackelford called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
- II. **Roll Call & Minutes** – Attendance was recorded via presence on Zoom. Because Secretary Janice Weddle was not present; Jennifer Wann was designated to take the minutes.

Minutes of the 03/12/2021 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Rachel Shankles made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Lynn Valetutti. Motion carried.

- III. **Consent Agenda** – Consent agenda of information-only reports distributed prior to the meeting. Rachel Shankles made a motion to approve the reports on the consent agenda; seconded by Carol Coffey. Motion carried.
- IV. **Financial Report** – Lynn Valetutti delivered the financial report. ArLA has \$94,525 in our checking account, \$40,682 in Edward Jones, \$39,551 of which is scholarship money and \$12,165 of which is LEAF funding. The operating cash balance is \$42,809.

The 2020 taxes were submitted and a copy is in Dropbox. The March Profit & Loss statement is being finalized by the accountant as we speak.

- V. **ALA Councilor's Report** – Lacy Wolfe noted that registration is open for ALA Annual Virtual Conference June 23-29 and encouraged attendance at the Virtual Conference.

The Executive Board of the American Library Association (ALA) issued a statement supporting the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA) in recognizing and condemning ongoing anti-Asian hate crimes.

Ms. Wolfe noted that because ArLA no longer has a Legislative Chair, a new CI related to Advocacy would be able to take advantage of the Engage software provided by ALA to all Chapters.

Ms. Wolfe attended a special called meeting on Wednesday, March 31 that was informational only and where the Forward Together Resolutions group provided an update on their work. They have created 6 resolution subgroups to create resolutions for their respective constituencies (ALA Core Values, ALA Executive Board, ALA Committees, Roundtables, Council, Leadership Assemblies). Resolution drafts will be presented to Council on April 29 & May 4 with final resolutions presented at ALA in June. Bylaws will be drafted June 2021-January 2022, approved in January 2022, and implemented in March/April 2022.

A new blog, *Toward Inclusive Excellence*, will explore issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion, particularly as they affect the library community. Contributors and participants will include administrators at every level, faculty, and other members of the library community.

- VI. SELA Report** – Emily Rozario reported that a virtual SELA conference will be held jointly with the North Carolina Library Association, October 18-22. Conference proposals are being accepted through April 16 and poster proposal are being accepted through June 15. Registration is: \$80 for SELA members; \$100 for Non-SELA members; and \$25 for students. New memberships in SELA are \$10. The conference website is: <https://nclaonline.org/conference>
- VII. Arkansas Libraries** – Britt Anne Murphy encouraged officers and committee chairs to submit reports or articles to be included in *AL* as it serves as a historical record for the organization. May 1 is the deadline for submissions for the upcoming Spring/Summer issue.

Ms. Murphy also reported that there are 11 Pets of ArLA calendars left. Seven calendars were sent to Arkansas' Congressional Delegation and to Governor Asa Hutchinson in recognition of National Library Week.

**VIII. Committee Reports**

Conference Committee – Rachel Shankles reported that preliminary work with the Whova app is going well. Currently the keynote sessions are being populated in the app. There are only three vendors registered. Additional proposals are needed as well.

Web Services Committee – Ron Russ reported that he is in the process of reorganizing the ArLA website to make it more readable and accessible. This is not a major redesign.

**IX. Items of Business**

- a. Treasurer-Elect** – Kristen Cooke, Treasurer-Elect needs to step down and has submitted her resignation to the Board. The other candidate for the position was Kathleen Ashmore and she has indicated that she would be interested in assuming the duties. Lacy Wolfe made a motion that Ms. Ashmore be appointed Treasurer-Elect; seconded by Lynn Valetutti. Motion carried.
- b. Mentoring Program** – Becky Fischer, Contact Person for the Membership Involvement Community of Interest, presented a written description of the proposed Arkansas Library Association Mentoring Program and answered questions from the Board. After discussion, Ron Russ made a motion to approve the Mentoring Program as written; seconded by Lacy Wolfe. Motion carried.
- c. Library Advocacy CI (LACI)** – An application to create the Library Advocacy Community of Interest came before the Board. Carol Coffey made a motion to approve the CI; seconded by Lynn Valetutti. Motion carried.

**X. Announcements**

- a. Web Services Committee** – Upcoming website reorganization announced earlier during committee reports.
- b. ALL-In 2022 Cohort** – Jennifer Wann announced that the Arkansas State Library will be hosting a third cohort of the Arkansas Library Leadership Institute (ALL-In) in early 2022. Information is

available online: <https://www.library.arkansas.gov/services/professional-development-for-librarians/arkansas-library-leadership-institute/all-in-2022/>

- c. **April 21 – Lunch, Learning, and Libraries webinar** – “Embedded Librarian: Is it for your College” with Nithin Lakshmana, Northwest Arkansas Community College

- XI. **Public Comment** – Jessica Riedmueller asked a question clarifying when the newly appointed Treasurer Elect would assume the duties of the Treasurer to comply with the bylaws.

Crystal Gates reminded attendees that an open call for new officers for next year would be coming soon.

Becky Fischer commented that it needs to be clear about who can vote and who can't vote for Officers if there is an Institutional Membership involved; however, the Institutional Membership proposal is still being reviewed.

- XII. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 9:36 AM.

The next meeting will be held May 14, 2021 via Zoom at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Wann, Member at Large