



## **March 20, 2020, ABOS Board Minutes**

Recorded by Lori Berezovsky, ABOS Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. Central Time.

**In attendance:** Cathy Zimmerman, David Kelsey, Lori Berezovsky, Brooke Bahnsen, Susan Parkins, Liana Morales, Wendy Ramsey, Robin Rousu, Zach Roberts, Kevin Kammeraad, Katrina Ford and Rose Huling.

**Absent:** None

### **Secretary Minutes**

There were no corrections concerning the minutes from the February 21, 2020 board meeting. David Kelsey motioned to accept the minutes as written. Susan Parkins seconded. Motion carried. The minutes will be posted to the website.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Brooke Bahnsen reported that the finance report was sent out earlier today. There has been a steady stream of memberships coming in. Vendor payments haven't started coming in yet. BOIR donations and expenses have been taken out so the BOIR committee can better see what's happening with their finances between last year and this year. The Treasurer's report is ready to be filed for audit. Cathy Zimmerman will send the financial report to Michael Swendrowski so he has the BOIR financials.

### **President's Report**

Cathy Zimmerman reminded the board to respond to emails as quickly as possible. There are often things that come up that need everyone's vote or input. Getting input, voting, and responding promptly is a part of being a board member. She suggested that those of us working from home during COVID-19 social-distancing may be able to get some committee work done which would lighten the load once we all go back to work. This is an uncertain time. We are proceeding as if the conference will go on in October.

### **Committee Reports**

**Advocacy:** Liana Morales reported that they had a successful meeting on February 28. Liana was granted permission to start a google group for the Advocacy committee; she will get that set up next week. The group discussed putting print ABOS ads in library publications. They will find out the cost of ads and submission deadlines first. They also discussed programming that they do and would like to promote those ideas in Out & About or other venues to inspire others. The committee would like to have ABOS members represent ABOS at state library conferences, etc. Cathy Zimmerman suggested that any member can put together an informal group of outreach people. David Kelsey thanked Liana for chairing this committee and getting off to an active start.

Cathy Zimmerman reminded us all to use Uberconference for our committee meetings. It records the discussions which adds to our history. Uberconference has video meeting potential.

Please make sure to use the Google calendar when scheduling committee meetings. We can only do one Uber meeting at a time.

**Awards:** David Kelsey is excited about the three new awards. Awards are scheduled to open on April 1. David asked if we could open them as soon as possible. David made the motion to open Awards as soon as possible; Wendy Ramsey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. The committee will work on a social media campaign, too.

**BOIR:** Cathy Zimmerman reported that the committee met earlier this week. The committee has submitted a fundraising article for the Out & About newsletter. A reminder will go out reminding people to use Amazon Smiles during COVID-19 isolation and online ordering. Michael Swendrowski is still looking for a chair for the Academic Partnerships and Government Grant subcommittee. Michael is working with Amigos to develop a verification system to allow active ABOS members to have premium access to BOIR. She will ask them to update the BOIR timeline.

**Bylaws:** Wendy Ramsey reported that the updated Bylaws will be ready to share with the board on April 1.

**Conference:** Cathy Zimmerman will put out another call to the membership about joining a committee soon.

Vendors are committing at the Gold+ level: Farber (also sponsoring the Vavrek and Phillip awards), LDV (also sponsoring Line Dancing), Summit Bodyworks (also sponsoring bags), Thorndike Press (also sponsoring an author for one luncheon), NLM will be Gold+ at the national level and their regions will be doing something, too, TBA), FE Technology (also sponsoring whiskey tasting). We have a very healthy start to vendor commitments this year. Their deadline is April 1.

**Registration:** David Kelsey said there are 9 registrations so far. Robin Rousu shared that in the northwestern part of the country libraries are not allowing their employees to register for conferences due to COVID-19. Last year registration opened on May 1, so we're still ahead. The bulk will come in July.

**Networking Nite:** Cathy Zimmerman said the committee has some good ideas. They want the vendors to sponsor what they want, then we'll add to that. The committee suggested having a board where attendees can post ABOS conference memories through the years. They'd like another board for Q and A, or forming interest groups. Zach will create the slide show which will include the board, daily schedule, and more.

We have a rough draft of the conference schedule. Some highlights are:

**Wednesday:** to focus on all of our awards we'll have an Awards Luncheon. There will be three separate groups of workshops. Networking Nite in the evening.

**Thursday:** General board meeting; Author Luncheon, four separate groups of workshops, dinner on your own.

**Friday:** Interactive Lunch with Sally from MEternally; two groups of workshops. Speakers are very expensive in Texas, so having these kinds of programs at lunch will be a good savings. The food is more expensive, too.

**Mobile App:** Susan Parkins has been looking at Whova. Prices went up \$100 from last year, but they will honor the lower price quote for us. It's very easy to use and to upload long lists from Excel files. There are extra costs for add-ons, such as adding vendors. We should be able to wait until September to commit since it would be quick to set up. We have a 14-day trial. Whova would give us a slide for the slide show which is a reminder to attendees who haven't downloaded the app. The price is \$1300. Susan would like more input from board members. Kevin Kammeraad, Rose Huling, and Robin Rousu volunteered for the team.

**Continuing Education:** Susan Parkins reported that the committee has been in email contact and will meet next Tuesday. They'll come up with an objective statement to be added to the bylaws. They are looking to promote other organizations' webinars. They'd like to conduct a survey to ask the membership what learning opportunities they'd like to see.

**Long-Range Planning:** Robin Rousu reported that the committee met earlier this month. They looked at Columbus and Cleveland, OH for the conference site in 2024. They are also looking for other sites in OH. Also on their radar is the Covington, KY site which worked really well. The conference was held there 5 years ago.

**Marketing:** Lori Berezovsky reported the committee has been coming up with name badge ribbon ideas. They are hoping to have a couple with a Texas flair. Also underway is the conference bag design, which is undergoing some final tweaks. Lori is also beginning the initial layout of the conference booklet. Liana Morales added that the April issue of the Out & About newsletter is coming along. She's received several articles and the newsletter is currently at six pages.

**Membership:** Katrina reported that the committee worked on the Bring 1 Campaign this month. The goal of the campaign is to increase membership by 15%. They determined that the best way to do this was by a referral method. Whenever someone joins there will be a place for them to enter the name of who referred them to ABOS. This entry will serve as a raffle ticket for a free conference registration. Katrina said she could see a 20-25% increase in membership with this method. Advertising will be via social media, the webpage and listserv. Zach Roberts suggested having a minimum amount of entries to break even. The board discussed what would happen if a board member won and wouldn't need the free conference registration. If that happens we'd draw another name. With Institutional memberships, the referral name would only be entered once.

Katrina made a motion to enact the Bring 1 Campaign to increase membership by 15% by way of getting referrals prior to September 1, 2020. The Campaign would begin on April 1 or 15, depending on Amigos. Lori Berezovsky seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Technology:** Kevin Kammeraad reported that he is continuing to learn about the website, how to make changes to it, and how to update things. Cathy Zimmerman thanked Kevin for taking this on and for his hard work.

### **Old Business**

Susan Parkins sent the post-conference survey out to the board. She received 221 responses. The survey has been saved in the 2020 Board Information file.

### **New Business**

Cathy Zimmerman attended the ODLOS meeting; there weren't many in attendance due to libraries closing and the virus. Here are the highlights from the affiliates:

- Committee on Diversity: Could not schedule a meeting in Feb. will be scheduling a March meeting
- BCALA: article in new American Libraries on 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary; held program at PLA conference; now picking award winners to be announced at ALA Annual
- CALA: busy planning poster sessions and programs for ALA Annual; chapters are working hard on chapter conferences.
- COE: held meeting, but low attendance; will have March meeting
- COL: working to organize a series of webinars on various types of literacy; first one is on culinary literacy, but should expand to food literacy, food insecurity in communities—have too many strong proposals for a single webinar, so are planning a second webinar.
- DRG Advisory: committee has been blanketing the world with information about the Diversity Research Grant; interviewing past grant recipients; excitement after April
- Rainbow RT: continuing to finalize plans for ALA Annual; recently received invitation from Gerber Leather Library, thinking of an archives crawl; will be sending call for standing committee volunteers
- RNTLOAK: plugging along, will have conference call Friday; working on poster session
- SRRT: quiet just now; Herb Biblio Award announced

**ALA Annual:** Saturday, June 27 will be Outreach Day. There will be space provided for bookmobiles. They haven't revealed whether Cathy and Susan's program/poster session will also be on Saturday or not.

**Partnerships:** Cathy Zimmerman is still working with NLM. Onan Generators would like to be at the conference this year, and are working on it. General Truck Body also wants to be at the conference but aren't sure they'll have the manpower.

The ARSL meeting was postponed, so representation at each other's conference is still undecided.

The ABOS Instagram account hasn't been used in quite a while. Cathy will ask Tina Williams if she has the password.

Susan Parkins recognized Cathy Zimmerman for her calmness during this COVID-19 time.

**Reminders:**

- Please check email daily and respond when needed.
- Please use your ABOS email for official business.
- Please cc: Cathy and David on all committee correspondence

**2020 Conferences**

**ALA Annual**, June 25-30, Chicago, IL. Cathy and Susan will do a poster session and presentation. Cathy and Michael are doing *News You Can Use* on the BOIR Project. David is taking his new van to ALA. There is nothing new to report on the Bookmobile event.

**ARSL**, Sept. 30- Oct. 3 in Wichita, KS. Lori will attend.

**ABOS**, Oct. 14-16, Dallas, TX.

Cathy Zimmerman adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m. Central Time.