



August 20, 2021, ABOS Board Minutes
Recorded by Karen Bradley, ABOS Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 2:02p.m. CST.

In attendance: David Kelsey, Lori Berezovsky, Brooke Bahnsen, Cathy Zimmerman, Robin Rousu, Zach Roberts, Michelle Fernandez, Crystal Harris, Jenn Koetz

Absent: Rosa Granado

The meeting was called to order by ABOS President David Kelsey and Roll Call performed by Karen Bradley.

Secretary Minutes

Meeting minutes from July were distributed and adjusted by the Board. Jenn motioned to accept, Cathy seconded, and the motion was approved. July minutes will be uploaded to the website.

Treasurer

Our current income is listed at \$27,100 total. Vendor support, registration is up, and membership dues have out done our expectations. Tax return for our non-profit organization will be turned in soon and we are finally financially stable.

President's Report

Student Week runs from 9/13-9/17 and there will be 14 student spotlights featured on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We will have prizes for current student members and discounts for new student members. Crystal will be raffling off swag for our current student members. We have doubled our student membership since January 1st.

Driven Discussions

Susan Parkins suggested Driven Discussions which will be exclusively for members and center around hot topic discussions with experts for each topic. They will be held once a month and are a great way to increase membership value.

Committee Reports

Advocacy

The Advocacy Committee is continuing their email blasts to state and regional library organizations to promote the conference, student week, and storywalk week. There are currently between 100 and 150 people that the advocacy committee reaches out to. Additionally, they are still trying to get the ODLOS outreach services handbook up off ground and have split the document into smaller groups to work on; it is slow going as it hasn't been updated in over 15 years.

BOIR

The IMLS letter of support and budgetary report submitted last week to help us offset the cost of the BOIR project. We will have results for our grant by mid-fall.

Conference

Awards

David has notified all of the award winners.

Featured Speakers

Each featured speaker is confirmed and we have their titles and descriptions.

Registration

Registration is moving along. We currently have 362 registered participants so far. Group registration is being utilized and we have over 100 registered in that way.

Programs The schedule is set and has been uploaded into Whova and is available on the conference page of the ABOS website.

Poster Sessions

There were 22 poster session submissions and all have been accepted.

Bookmobile Tours

There are currently 9 submissions and Zach will send out an email encouraging board members to submit as well. Submissions will be accepted through August 27th and should be 2-3 minutes in length.

Connecting Convos

We will have three connecting conversations on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during the conference, for a total of 9 different topics. They will all be afternoon sessions. Each Board member will have a connecting conversation that they will be hosting.

Whova Updates

The schedule has been uploaded and is ready to go. Robin and Brooke will schedule co-host training in the next few weeks.

Vendors

The vendors have been uploaded into Whova and have been emailed about setting up their booth. Gold Sponsors have a center where they can do an additional booth space at double the amount to upload and have a bigger presence. Vendor logos will be circulating throughout the workshop but Matthews will have priority because they are sponsoring the Whova app. The National Library of Medicine will host an evening event. Summit is not joining us this year but there is a new, undisclosed vendor in the works.

Conference assignments

David will be meeting with Board members in the beginning of September to make sure they are comfortable and ready to go for the conference.

Continuing Education

Our second continuing education session was Storytime Kits in the Pandemic World with Maggie Ward and was at the end of July and had 29 registrants with 12 actual attendees. The third webinar was on Wednesday, regarding Air Table for Outreach by Jessica Duffner and Benjamin Baron and Kery Ruebens and had 22 registrants with 16 participants. Jenn and the committee are currently working on planning future webinars.

Long Range Planning

Cathy updated the Board on the current 2024 situation. We will be avoiding Florida because of hurricane season. Additionally, the places we looked at were too expensive, with upwards of \$200,000 for food and beverage. Shonna is looking at Indianapolis. There is a Wynham that is being renovated and should be finished in 12-18 months. The hotel is available for our conference dates and the renovation will be completed by then. Hotel rooms are \$162 per night with food and beverage coming in at \$48,000. There is no resort fee per room and there is complimentary parking for both guests and bookmobiles. The hotel is close to the airport and there is 24 hour shuttle service available.

Zach made a motion to approve logistical analysis by Cathy to hold the conference in Indianapolis. Robin seconded the motion and none opposed. Cathy will work with Shonna regarding logistics and may move forward with an in-person visit.

Our next conferences are set for the following:

2022 - Arizona

2023 - Tennessee

2024 - Indiana

Marketing/Social Media

Book Bike Week went well with over 100 entries and had excellent interaction with people on our various social media. Lori is going to put out a call soon for articles for the October issue of Out and About and she is hoping to have lots of highlights from the conference.

Membership

As of today there are 601 members; they are broken down into 353 regular members, 154 institutional members, 50 student members, and 10 retiree members. The first time membership report for August is 44, which is doubled from last year. There were a total of 94 membership referrals for the "All Aboard!" Membership Campaign. Wendy Ramsey was interviewed for Membership Monday and said that she was happy to see our membership increase because it makes our voices louder and gives us a bigger impact in the library world. Crystal will be sending out prizes for membership milestones at 500, 550, and 600 members. The Board was reminded to encourage individuals in our states to join, and there was praise mentioned for Morgan Pershing from California, who helped double the membership in California.

David began a discussion about having a directory of sorts behind the membership wall. It would include library listings for various members. It would list the member's library and none of their personal information. The idea is that it will help us with future conferences because we can contact them directly to get them engaged in and excited for the upcoming conference, particularly if it is held in their state.

Nominations

Currently at a standstill while conference and vendor prep is happening. Once conference needs settle down, Cathy will start the behind the scenes tasks to get ready for nominations season.

Technology

Robin and Brooke have reached crunch time for technology. They have organized a co-host training and have put together a master spreadsheet with presenter, host, and co-host information. The co-hosts will do tech checks with presenters from September 20 - October 7. Zoom has been renewed until August 2022 and we will continue to have 10 Zoom rooms. The webinar price will be added soon and has been lowered for this year. Committee chairs were encouraged to reach out to their committees to gain additional assistance for co-hosting duties. We want to make sure that our committee members have meaningful roles within the organization.

New Business:

David will host a meeting with Board members during the 3rd Friday of September in order to touch base before the conference and make sure everyone feels comfortable with their duties. This is an extra meeting if Board members can attend.

Partnerships

There are several Conversations with Cathy lined up including one with David and Crystal for Student Week. Cathy and Lori just finished up their conversation regarding nominations.

Meeting times

3rd Friday every month 2pm CST

Other

David reminded the Board members to check their email for a Doodle poll from Susan Parkins regarding a Whova meeting for the Board.

Important ABOS Dates in 2021

- Student Week - September 13-17, 2021
- ABOS Conference – October 11-15, 2021
- StoryWalk® Week - November 15-19, 2021
- Twelve Days of Membership - December 1-12, 2021

Adjournment @ 3:23

Zach motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:23 pm CST. Jenn seconded and none opposed.

Next Board Meeting September 17, 2021 Noon (P), 1:00 (M), 2:00 (C), 3:00 (E)