



December 18, 2020, ABOS Board Minutes

Recorded by Lori Berezovsky, ABOS Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. Central Time.

In attendance: Cathy Zimmerman, David Kelsey, Lori Berezovsky, Brooke Bahnsen, Susan Parkins, Wendy Ramsey, Robin Rousu, Katrina Ford, Karen Bradley, Zach Roberts, and Rose Huling.

Absent: Liana Morales

Secretary Minutes

The minutes from the November 20, 2020 board meeting were distributed and corrections have been made. Lori Berezovsky motioned to accept the minutes as written. Wendy Ramsey seconded. Motion carried. The minutes will be posted to the website and moved to the shared folder.

Treasurer's Update

Brooke Bahnsen reported that all the November statements are in. We paid Amigos an extra \$4,000 for the extra work generated by the virtual conference. We currently have a \$94,961 surplus.

President's Report

Cathy Zimmerman welcomed the new board members in attendance: Michelle Fernandez, Rachel Hadidi, Rosa Granado, and Crystal Harris.

David motioned to appoint Zach Roberts and Rachel Hadidi to fill the two one-year positions that are open. Karen Bradley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Cathy motioned to accept the slate of officers. Robin Rousu seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rose will take on the Technology Consultant position. This will not be a board position but will be an important part of ABOS technology support.

Old Business

Susan Parkins reported that nominations and the election went well. 340 election ballots were sent out; 161 participated in the voting.

The post-conference survey has been sent out and will not be closed until after the first of the year. We've received lots of good feedback from the survey so far.

Brooke looked into member benefits offered by TechSoup. Since we have a large membership we won't be able to offer our members access to perks that an individual library would have.

New Business

TerraVida Holistic Centers is interested in partnering with us. They want to create a bookmobile to serve inner-city Philadelphia. We are still working with them on this.

Doctors from Canada who work with the Lighthouse Foundation are wanting to start a bookmobile in Pakistan for blind children.

Cathy met with NNLM and they'd like to help us with our Continuing Education Committee. They have earmarked money for this.

David reported that ODLOS and Amber Hayes have rebranded National Bookmobile Day to National Library Outreach Day. They have created a new logo for the event, for which the ABOS board approved \$133 as our share of the cost. It may be an additional \$30.

We won a \$100 Amazon gift card from Whova for the highest use of all areas of the app. The Executive Board decided to hold the gift card over for use at the next conference, to purchase prizes.

David gave an overview of ALA's Emerging Leaders program. One way to reach young librarians is to sponsor an Emerging Leader for \$1000 per year. There was a discussion on the compared value of working with Spectrum Scholars vs. Emerging Leaders. David will look at ALA's contract and bring it before the Board in January.

Lori reported on the ALA Graphics Gift Shop and how it works for ALA affiliates. There is no cost to ABOS, but ALA takes \$1.50 per sale. The rest would be deposited into our account on a monthly basis. The merchandise would be available in different colors, with more variety of items to choose from. T-shirts would be in the \$22-\$25 range, which is higher than we usually charge. We could ask vendors to sponsor a conference-specific shirt, while the Gift Shop would feature more general designs. Lori has also contacted a local graphic design student who would charge \$130 total for 2-3 designs, including revisions. This would be a design suitable for t-shirts and other items. This will come before the board in January.

Committees

Advocacy: No Report

Bylaws: Cathy thanked Wendy for getting the bylaws updated.

Continuing Education: Susan got this new committee up and running this year. Next year the committee will have a quarterly webinar set-up. Rachel will chair the committee in 2021.

Long-Range Planning: Robin sent out the updated contract for San Antonio 2024; all corrections have been made. Lori motioned to accept the contract. Katrin Ford seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Disney couldn't hold the spot they offered us, so Shonna will work with them to see about getting us a similar deal in the future. A hotel in Niagra Falls sent us an offer for 2025 which we will consider.

Marketing: Lori reported that the Out & About newsletter is due to be published in mid-January. Starting in 2021 the committee will manage all social media for ABOS.

Membership: Katrina reported that she and Lori updated the membership brochure. The lapsed member survey will go out soon. This year saw increased membership with the Bring1 campaign.

Technology: Robin said the committee is relaxing this month and will hit the ground running in January.

Year-End Passing the Torch

Susan Parkins thanked everyone for their work over the last few years. She said it has been wonderful being a part of the board.

Cathy said it has been her pleasure to work with each of the board members as we overcame so much in the past year. She presented David with an ABOS gavel, which she will mail to him. The gavel will take the place of the ceremonial “passing of the tablecloth”.

David thanked the board for a wonderful 2020. He said that COVID-19 allowed us to grow through partnerships and initiatives, and allowed us to revamp ABOS and bring it into the future. He thanked Susan and Cathy for all they’ve done for ABOS, and thanked the Board members leaving the board this year.

Awards

David said there will be new awards for 2021 bringing the total to 10. Only three awards will have a monetary gift attached, but all awards will come with free conference registration. David would like to change the awards application deadline from August to May to allow winners time to advocate to attend. The intent of all of the new awards is to celebrate the people doing the work. There was a discussion about having vendors sponsor an award winner who can’t attend due to not having their library’s support.

Reminders

Clean up your email and Drive.

Board meetings will be held the third Friday of each month, from 2-4 p.m. Central Time. New emails will go out Jan. 1, 2021.

Cathy will hold a Board101 with new board members in January. This will cover Gmail, Drive, and more.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Next meeting will be Fri., Jan. 15 at 2:00 p.m. CDT.