

WAAL Board Meeting
April 30, 2020, 2:00 – 3:30
Teleconference

Present: Sarah Bakken (WAAL Secretary), Beth Kucera (Conference co-chair)
Michael Doylen (chair), Eric Jennings (past chair), Plumer Lovelace (WLA Executive Director),
Robin Miller (Conference co-chair), Maureen Olle-Lajoie (Vice-chair), Lee Wagner (ACRL
Representative)

Agenda

Meeting called to order at 2:05

Approve minutes of March 16, 2020 meeting

- Move to approve by Doylen; seconded by Jennings; motion passed unanimously with all members voting

Chair's report

- Doylen emphasizes the importance of renewing membership and continuing to grow membership
- WLA Mentor Program
 - With the smaller participation from academic librarians in the WLA mentorship program, the board discussed ways to get more academic librarians involved
 - Board will keep this in mind in planning for getting more academic librarians involved in 2021

Old Business

- WAAL 2020 conference
 - After canceling original conference date and receiving the results of the survey sent out to WAAL members about rescheduling, the board discussed the results and possibility of rescheduling or canceling.
 - The survey revealed a slim majority would attend again and there was a mix of response for possible reschedule dates. Additionally, the already scheduled presenters for the conference remained committed date pending. The survey also revealed we would have half committee volunteers involved for rescheduling.
 - The board discussed the survey results in combination with:
 - unknown length or consequences of pandemic for the rest of the year with expected second and/or third waves later this year
 - budget cuts from institutions for traveling this year
 - Unfeasible turnaround time for committee to re-plan for 2020 fall & then in spring for 2021

- The board suggested encouraging accepted 2020 WAAL proposals to resubmit for WLA conference this fall.
 - Move to cancel 2020 WAAL conference by Doyley; seconded by Wagner; motion passed unanimously with all members voting
 - Action Item: With Kucera and Miller stepping back from conference planning committee, they will send recommendations for those interested in new committee to Doyley as well as general information and a timeline for planning the 2021 conference. Thank you for Beth and Robin for their years of service with the conference.
- 2021 Conference Planning
 - Brookfield hotel offering \$3,000 of our \$4,000 down payment to use at another time.
 - Motion to approve conference in Brookfield for Spring 2021 by Jennings; Seconded by Wagner; motion passed unanimously with all members voting
 - Action Item: Doyley will get in touch with Bridget to get dates on Calendar for 2021
- Fundraising for conferences
 - WAAL is relying more and more on sponsorships with the rise in costs related to conferences and breaking even on hosting conferences
 - There has been a reliance on universities in the past for sponsorships. However, in 2019 there had been a diversification in the demographics of our sponsors which the board sees as a road to future success to keep up with conference funding.
 - Miller recognizes the increase in sponsorship is largely due to Ann Vogel's work, which the board wants to continue with as sponsorship becomes more and more important with funding the WAAL conference. Thank you to Ann.
 - The board will look to guidance from WLA on returning sponsorship money for the 2020 conference since it has been canceled.
 - Action item: Plumer will follow up with Tom about returning sponsorship dollars for WAAL

New Business

- Revisions to WAAL Policies & Procedures; motion to approve
 - Wagner moves for approval; Jennings seconds; motion passed unanimously with all members voting
 - Action Item: Doyley will add latest revision date and added to website
 - Wagner suggests we annually look through policies and procedures to keep updated; Potentially in January when new members begin on WAAL board.
 - Action Item: Doyley will add to January to-do list

- Board will send an email officially stating the conference is canceled for this year along with the new policies and procedures and encouraging approved WAAL session proposals to resubmit for the WLA conference this fall. The headline for WLA proposals has been extended to May 29, 2020. Kucera noted Tom has refunded WAAL registrations.
 - Action Item: Jennings volunteers for making personal emails to accepted proposals
- Jennings is named to the WLA Membership Committee to serve a 2 year term as WAAL representative on the committee.
- The board agrees to meet again in July. Date is to be determined.

Adjourn