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Wednesday, October 9, 2024

1:30 PM Atlantic / 12:30 PM Eastern / 11:30 AM Central / 10:30 AM Mountain / 9:30 AM Pacific

P : Olivia Blake (coordinator), Frieda Afary, Tara Brady, Lisa Gieskes, Sherre Harrington, Mark Hudson, Al Kagan, Charles Kratz, Don Michael Jr., April Sheppard, Kristina Shiroma, Derek Wilmott, Joseph Winberry, Hillary Pearson (ODLOS staff liaison), Katelyn Browne (recording)

Welcome/call to order: Olivia Blake called the meeting to order at 11:34 Central.

Approve minutes from [September 4, 2024](#): Don Michael moved and April Sheppard seconded approval of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously among those voting members in attendance.

Treasurer's Report (Derek Wilmott): No updates since last month's report. Derek will have a report once he receives information from the fiscal year close. Charles Kratz reminded Derek that while most of our membership loss has been among student members (who can join for free), it's important to ensure we recover funds as promised from any paying membership loss. Hillary can help with that.

Short update on overhead changes: Olivia reported that a memo went out to the RTCA reporting that ALA Treasurer Peter Hepburn will be making a motion to approve the model based on net operating surplus to be applied to all revenue-generating units beginning with fiscal year 2026. This was SRRT's least-preferred option, but Olivia is not surprised that it is what won out in the vote of all divisions and roundtables. The draft motion shared with RTCA also includes a "savings plan" for 30% of a unit's net operating surplus, a review of the overhead model in advance of FY29 planning and on a three-year cycle thereafter, and a direction that the Treasurer develop a communication plan to inform membership at large about the new model.

April commented that the outcome of option 3 may not be a big problem for us if the issue with how donations were being factored in has been corrected.

Tara Brady commented that this model gives the most control; if we don't want a lot of our money to go to overhead, we need to spend more on programming.

Derek agreed with Tara while noting that this model incentivizes that kind of planning. This also reinforces the need to increase memberships and increase donations, so that we can do the programming we want to do and provide better support for our members, including possible assistance for student members.

Al Kagan asked whether there has been any more discussion of trying to recover the past surplus. Olivia said that as far as she understands, it's not understood to be ours and it's not coming back. Sherre Harrington noted that SRRT has spent money from the understood surplus during her most recent term as treasurer, even if that's now understood as "getting approval to overspend our budget." For example, that's how the graduate student working in the archives was funded that way. Sherre suggests that we continue to ask for funds when we have a legitimate need. Derek also encouraged us to look for opportunities to collaborate and share costs with other round tables who might share an interest in particular programs; other round tables are probably thinking similar things.

[Elder Justice Task Force](#) updated guidelines (Joseph Winberry & Kristina Shiroma): Joseph reported that the group made some changes to the guidelines based on Action Council's

Brief discussion on combating voter suppression (Frieda Afary): Frieda reported that there is less than a month before our online program on voter suppression. She thanked Rebekah Black and Olivia for their work on distributing our

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For revised rules to be included on the spring 2025 ballot, reach out to ALA staff liaison by/before early November 2024. The actual document is due later.

If we need more time, we could aim for the spring 2026 ballot, but should not delay any further than that

ALA Annual 2025: Round Table Booth on the exhibits floor (Olivia Blake): We have the opportunity to have a booth in Exhibits. We would need one or more SRRT members to staff the booth. Olivia asked whether there is a precedent for this.

April is unsure whether there is precedent, but reports that she talked to a lot of people about SRRT when doing the poster presentation at a recent Annual. Many of those people didn't even know that SRRT existed. There could be a lot of benefit to having a table at exhibits.

Al noted that SRRT tried to do this "a really long time ago," and has also shared a table with an exhibitor. The problem at that time was not only a problem with recruiting volunteers, but that all the round tables and other ALA bodies were put off in a corner somewhere and they did not get a lot of traffic to the booth. It would be important to know whether the booth will be in a high-traffic area.

Tara noted that it will also be on us and our neighbors to promote whatever area we are assigned to.

Sherre suggests that "if there are buttons, people will go!"

Olivia will start having conversations about how best to pursue this. Derek and Mark both live relatively nearby and are able to attend and help out.

Al Kagan moved that we extend the meeting until 1:00 Central. April seconded. The motion passed among those voting members in attendance with one vote against.

Brief discussion: hurricane response (Frieda Afary): Frieda suggested that we take up a collection to support a SRRT member who has been in touch with Frieda and April since their area was hit by Helene. Olivia will ask Hillary for guidance on what we can post on Connect. Tara suggested reaching out to ALA-APA about a library workers' relief fund (and suggesting that such a thing be created if it doesn't already exist). Olivia will ask Hillary about that as well, and Tara is willing to reach out if that connection should come from SRRT.

Brief discussion: Membership (Al Kagan): Al noted that our student members have decreased dramatically, presumably because the coupon-code system is more complicated and less transparent than our previous free student memberships. This is the result of a policy decision from the Executive Board. Sara Dallas is willing to put it on the agenda for the Executive Board; Al recommends that we ask Sara to do that.

Tara noted that she asked when this policy came into existence whether we could put our coupon code on our website and/or at point of sale. That might help. Tara supports having Sara bring this to the Executive Board.

Charles asked whether we have email addresses for the students who didn't renew.

April noted that we send an e-mail every time someone drops or doesn't renew.

Charles suggested we put the coupon code in that e-mail. April confirmed that the code is already in the e-mail we send for dropped memberships.

April commented that the Membership Office has previously said that they could help promote free student membership

Katelyn encouraged us to make sure the coupon code is in the membership-purchasing system. April reported that Hillary is supposed to be making sure it's in our blurb.

Al suggests that we ask Sara to point out that this new practice has affected us dramatically in terms of student membership, and we should be allowed to simply have free memberships for students again.

Olivia will continue this discussion on Connect.

Upcoming meetings - alternating between 1st Monday and 2nd Wednesday of the month (see below for a full listing of expected meeting schedule)

D : Monday, November 4, 2024

Time: 2 PM Atlantic / 1 PM Eastern / 12 PM Central / 11 AM Mountain / 10 AM Pacific

D : Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Time: 1:30 PM Atlantic / 12:30 PM Eastern / 11:30 AM Central / 10:30 AM Mountain / 9:30 AM Pacific

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 PM Central time per a motion made by Katelyn Browne and seconded by April Sheppard.