**PLA Board 5.21.21**

Michelle open.

Ramiro moved and ? seconded agenda.

**Introduce and welcome new PLA ED Mary Davis Fournier.** Dara: what’s most exciting? Mary: continue to position PLA as member powerhouse with continued EDISJ focus. Excited about new strategic plan. Stephanie: good trust among PLA working board and experience working with functional (and dysfunction) boards!

**PLA President Report**: Michelle is 2022 Conference co-chair. Met with Melissa and Carrie as co-chair. Fun to think about! Probably first big in-person conference for many folks: March 23-25. Reminder to register to ALA Annual Conference 2021. Moving her library from response to recovery, and it’s tough; we need to take care of ourselves and stay in for long haul. PLA is in the same boat—not an easy year supporting members at this time, retiring longtime PLA Director, challenges working with ALA. But now we also hope to transition PLA from crisis response to recovery.

**ALA EB Liaison report**: thanks to Stephanie for very good notes. Larry’s been working to improve ALA EB processes. He is seeing continued improvements, which is hopeful. He’s looking forward to more information related to finances. Moving to quarterly reports. He pushed back on budget projections for PLA, as well. The liaison role DOES work, and he’s not afraid to speak up.

>>Stephanie: any thought about upcoming transition and any preparation with new EB members? Some concerns about composition in terms of level of experience—ALA is not a library system, and it’s not a learning ground. Need experienced leaders. Ed has been vocal, as well as Karen Schneider. There is a lot of quiet time where questions SHOULD be raised. Also, concern about hand off/transition so it’s not a revolving door and loss of continuity. Hopefully Larry’s work on board effectiveness will make it more attractive in the future.

**PLA President-Elect Update**: first media interview yesterday as PLA President-Elect. Needs to sort PLA committee appointments. People are very invested in the future! MISSED SOME STUFF—EDI-related for appointments? Talking about onboarding new board members with Mary Hirsh. Will talk with Dara and Brandy about their experiences joining board.

Brandy McNeil—new job as head of Adult Learning at NYPL.

**Membership Dues Increase**: A decade ago PLA linked member dues with CPI. Didn’t do it last year, but ALA EB increased in Spring 2021. Aligned PLA with ALA, so about $2-$4 increase overall. If approved, it would go into effect in September 2021. Brandy moved; Amita second. Approved unanimously.

**New Business**

*Council update from Stephanie*: plan to bring Forward Together resolution(s) to Council I on June 28. Christina will come to June 18 PLA Board to share resolutions so there could potentially be a PLA statement or statements. Also talking about having another PLA Councilor session related to Forward Together…?

Operating Agreement from Clara: group has broken into two subcommittees—one looking at financial models and one focused on division/ALA relationship. Clara is on the financial group, and also “auditing” the relationship group. She is convinced that this is being pursued because of ALA financial crisis. Something is systemically wrong with ALA budget in using PPP loan to short up cash flow, and Tracie is doing a good job getting grants to underwrite operating, but this is not predictable. Clara doesn’t think PLA (or others) will see fund balances again. ALA will continue to sweep any year-end funds. “One ALA” is here to stay for a significant time. One model is no overhead. Overhead is simply moving money around. Would not be a major change for PLA (and could work to our benefit), but demands close review at the outset with B&F. Also needs to have consequences and accountability. Clara is optimistic about future in terms of PLA autonomy and the elements PLA values on the relationship side will likely remain in place.