**IFRT Executive Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 28, 2022**

11:30pm-1pm AKT; 12:30pm-2pm PST; 1:30pm-3pm MST; 2:30pm-4pm CST; 3:30pm-5pm EST

Zoom

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Steph Barnaby, Michael Blackwell, Chaz Carey, Johana Orellana Cabrera, Peter Coyl, Rita Ennen, Rhonda Evans, Johannah Genett, Wanda Huffaker, Ray James, Michael Kirby, Rebecca Moorman, Judi Moreillon, Steve Norman, Angela Ocana, Deb Sica, Jennifer Steele, Amanda Vazquez

1. **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:**

Vazquez called the meeting to order at 2:45pm CDT. A quorum was established.

1. **INTRODUCTIONS**

Members introduced themselves and noted their positions in Zoom chat.

1. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Blackwell moved to approve the agenda. Moorman seconded. The motion carried and was passed with no objections.

1. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

IFRT Executive Committee Minutes – [August 24, 2022](https://connect.ala.org/ifrt/viewdocument/minutes-august-24-2022-executive-b?CommunityKey=5812ad29-f5dc-43af-a4b8-91c69093da60&tab=librarydocuments). Barnaby moved to accept the minutes. James seconded. The motion carried and was approved with no objections.

1. **REPORT OF OFFICERS**
   1. Chair: Angela Ocana
      1. Will be submitting a proposal for an emerging leader.
      2. Looking for committee members and committee chair for planning the 50th Anniversary celebration.
   2. Chair-Elect: Amanda Vazquez
      1. Nothing to report.
   3. Treasurer: Jennifer Steele
      1. Nothing to report.
   4. Directors at Large: Michael Blackwell
      1. A statement regarding the attack on Salman Rushdie was prepared and forwarded to ALA. ALA did not to release that statement possibly due to staffing shortages.
   5. Secretary: Rita Ennen
      1. Nothing to report.
2. **REPORT FROM COUNCILOR:** Peter Coyl
   1. First draft of the revised Bylaws was sent out for comment. Only a one week window for feedback was given which was to be submitted on a feedback form.
   2. A statement was put out by ALA regarding phone threats received by a number of libraries around the country. Those have been escalated to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Coyl will send out information on best practices in handling threatening calls.
3. **REPORT FROM OFFICE FOR INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM:**  **Kare Gianni**
   1. No report.
   2. Job description for Kristen Pekoll’s position been approved but the position has not been posted. ALA’s HR office is also short staffed so that may be contributing to the delay.
4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   1. Bylaws Committee: Steve Norman
      1. Committee expects to have revisions ready to bring to the board in October.
   2. Coalition Building Committee: Ray James
      1. Working on planning a committee meeting. Will be attending the SIFnet meeting in October. The new meeting time for SIFnet will be October 4th at 11am CT.
   3. Imroth Committee: Wanda Huffaker
      1. Working on a draft press release for Imroth.
   4. Membership Promotion Committee: Chaz Carey
      1. We will have our first fall membership meeting on November 4th at 7pm ET.
   5. Merritt Fund Support Committee: Deb Sica
      1. Committee will be meeting October 4th at 12 CT.
      2. Had good attendance at meeting in Seattle. Lots of excitement about Unite Against Book Bans.
   6. Nominating Committee: Rhonda Evans
      1. Very close to a full foster of candidates. Information with bios about the candidates will be sent out so that the executive committee can vote to approve the roster at the next meeting.
   7. Oboler Memorial Award Committee: Steph Barnaby
      1. Committee met on September 15th. Drafting a press release regarding call for nominations of books on intellectual freedom published in English in 2021 or 2022.
   8. Programming and Events Committee: Johannah Genett
      1. Committee has met twice. Planning two programs for this year.
         1. Winter program: Book Challenges Lessons from the Front
         2. Spring program: Is Viewpoint Diversity an Alternative to Neutrality?
      2. Challenges with getting enough committee member participation. Missed deadlines to submit proposals for LibLearnX and ALA. Ocana and Coyl have submitted program proposals so IFRT will be represented in the programs.
   9. Publications and Communications Committee: Michael Blackwell, Michael Kirby, and Judi Moreillon
      1. Blackwell reports that the committee is well organized for regular social media postings.
      2. Deadline for content submissions for the October newsletter is October 3rd.
      3. Moreillon reports that the committee has revived the member spotlight for the blog.
      4. Kirby reports that the committee chair is also planning for stories around the 50th anniversary to be included in the newsletter.
5. **LIAISON UPDATES: Ray James**
   1. IFC will be meeting September 30th. IFC submitted a report on Bylaws / Constitution issues.
6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE ROUND TABLE**
   1. Adding a Committee for the IFRT 50th Birthday.
      1. Please send names of potential committee members.
   2. Liaison for the Rainbow Roundtable.
      1. Work in progress. Possible liaison has been found.
   3. Concern about email going to [ifrt@ala.org](mailto:ifrt@ala.org)
      1. Discussion around where those emails go and ensuring that forms do not get lost.
7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Blackwell moved to adjourn the meeting. Ocana adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm CDT.