TO: PLA Board of Directors

FROM: PLA Staff

RE: Reports from PLA committees, advisory groups and task forces

DATE: September 9, 2020

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT: Report

ACTION REQUESTED BY: DRAFT OF MOTION: N/A

OVERVIEW

PLA solicits status reports from its committee chairs twice yearly. This will ensure that the Board has an opportunity to review the work of PLA's committees.

We asked chairs to provide a report that is high level and provides a brief overview and indicated it does not need to be nor is it intended to be an exhaustive list of activities. Instructions and form are here. Certain committees are excused from this process. These include award juries as well as the PLA Budget and Finance Committee.

The following represent the reports we have received as of today's date.



Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships Committee April-August 2020 Report

Committee/group name:

Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships Committee

Chair name:

Stephanie Beverage

Chair email address:

stephanie.beverage@surfcity-hb.org

Staff liaison:

Larra Clark

This report represents work done:

April-August

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

We had great plans coming out of PLA - we were going to work on reviving a legal list/blog/community, where participants could ask questions about the law and libraries, with a member of the committee serving as moderator. But due to the Pandemic emergency, I was unable to call a meeting and check in with other committee members.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership

Second Activity

We were also going to look into a possible webinar on how to engage with other local government associations. But again, we had no meeting due to the pandemic, and I do not know where we stand on this.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership



Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships Committee April-August 2020 Report

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

trying to reconnect and get back on track for the items that were reviewed and discussed at our meeting at PLA.

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

No.

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be developed based on your group's work?

No.

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all?

Leadership Development - as we were trying to engage more with other Government Associations, this might feed into leadership development. It would help new leaders learn about local government groups and organizations that can be valuable in one's career.

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? No

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

Not really - this period was unproductive entirely due to the Pandemic and the resulting emergency situation.

Today's Date

08/04/2020



Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships Committee April-August 2020 Report

Committee/group name:

Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships Committee

Chair name:

Stephanie Beverage

Chair email address:

stephanie.beverage@surfcity-hb.org

Staff liaison:

Larra Clark

This report represents work done:

April-August

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

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- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership

Second Activity

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Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership



Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships Committee April-August 2020 Report

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

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Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

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Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? No

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

Not really - this period was unproductive entirely due to the Pandemic and the resulting emergency situation.

Today's Date

08/04/2020



Continuing Education Advisory

Group April-August 2020 Report

Committee/group name:

Continuing Education Advisory Group

Chair name:

Sarah Tanslev

Chair email address:

stansley@chipublib.org

Staff liaison:

Angela Maycock

This report represents work done:

April-August

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

The group review existing webinars for relevance and recommended webinars for updating or removal from the archive.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Transformation

Second Activity

The group promoted the call for webinar proposals through their local activities and experiences.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice

Third Activity

The group reviewed and scored submitted webinars using the provided rubric in order to recommend webinars of high



Continuing Education Advisory Group April-August 2020 Report

quality that also focus on the core values highlighted in the PLA Strategic Plan.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice
- Leadership
- Organizational Excellence
- Transformation

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

The Continuing Education Advisory Group will be working on promoting the next webinar submission process and then reviewing the submissions for recommendations.

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

Not at this time.

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be developed based on your group's work?

Not at this time.

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all? Not that we can think of.

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? No

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

We worked through COVID which while a strange time, I found the group way more engaged and available. My theory is the group was looking forward to inspiration and escape provided in the proposals.

Today's Date

08/05/2020



Digital Literacy Committee April-August 2020 Report

Report Committee/group name: Digital Literacy Committee Chair name:

Chair email address:

Monica Dombrowski

mdombro@outlook.com

Staff liaison:

Scott Allen

This report represents work done:

April-August

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

Advised on the development of a new PLA/Microsoft initiative launched in May 2020, which is providing 80+ library sites with WiFi access points to extend signals during and beyond COVID closures.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice
- Organizational Excellence

Second Activity

Since the pandemic, PLA has been promoting DigitalLearn.org on-demand content and services available to members so they can increase their own and their patronsâ Midigital skills to succeed in a virtual environment.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice
- Leadership



Digital Literacy Committee April-August 2020 Report

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

Creating a plan for updating the Tech Classes available on DigitalLearn.org.

Creating user pathways for DigitalLearn website based on role (user, instructor, and researcher) and add resources for the researcher role.

Brandy McNeil and Chelsea Jordan-Makely will be presenting a session on digital literacy skills at the Computers in Libraries virtual conference in September (rescheduled from March).

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

Not at this time. Keep advocating for broadband internet access to become a public utility!

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be developed based on your group's work?

A digital services internship with PLA would be wonderful. Our idea is to work with the ALA accredited library schools to create a â œvirtualâ internship where students could get course credit for helping to vet, update, and manage content on DigitalLearn.org. This could include both the eLearning modules as well as the instructor materials.

Create a DigitalLearn.org Technology Competency learning and evaluation module to add to the Tools for Trainers site for library staffersâ ™ to be able to acquire and test technology competencies.

Monetize Digitallearn.org with different usage categories.

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all?

LITA. Perhaps some of their members would be willing to work with us to help create an evaluation tool for tech competencies?

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? Yes (if yes, PLA will contact you for more information)

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

No. We had to suspend all committee activities during the last 5 months due to COVID and the need to focus on our individual libraries (hence, the note about attendance above).

Today's Date

08/07/2020



Committee/group name:

Family Engagement Task Force

Chair name:

Io Giudice

Chair email address:

maryjo.giudice@dallascityhall.com

Staff liaison:

Scott Allen

This report represents work done:

September-March

How many times did your group meet during this reporting period?

4-6

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

The committees first activity was to organize and plan a half-day preconference session for PLA 2020. The focus this training opportunity was to help libraries learn how to engage library leadership in the importance of Family Engagement as a new and regular part of library programming endeavors. The diversity of panel speakers from size of library to gender and ethnicity was of the speakers was in alignment with PLA's vision. The committee moved away from speakers we see at every conference in an effort to keep the information fresh and engage those who may not have been active previously.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice
- Leadership

Second Activity

The second activity that took the bulk of the committee's time and effort was the planning and fine-tuning of the subscription webinar Family Engagement learning series. Based on the PLAâ ™s Family Engagement Framework, this



new professional development activity will enable public library professionals to expand and refine their current family engagement programming and strategies. This subscription plan will consist of eight highly interactive virtual classroom sessions. Each one-hour session will be led by experienced facilitators from the PLA Family Engagement Task Force and other experts. Participants will also engage in small-group work and facilitated discussions with their peers.

In addition to the online classroom sessions, participants will receive access to a closed ALA Connect group through which they may network with their peers and interact with session facilitators outside of class time. Access to this page, which includes exercises, session recordings, and other resources, will be given for a one-year period to all paid registrants.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Leadership
- Organizational Excellence
- Transformation

Third Activity

The PLA Family Engagement Task Force Partnered with Zero to Three to present a webinar. The webinar was titled Public Libraries: Vital Partners in Family Engagement.

Public libraries are accessible, offering diverse, intergenerational programming and serving families from low income homes at a high rate compared to other community providers. This session will enlighten new and experienced early childhood program staff, parents and others about the potential of public libraries and how they can collaborate with local public libraries as learning spaces and extend their own impact to engage families.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership
- Organizational Excellence
- Transformation

Fourth Activity

FE Task Force partnered with the National Center for Families Learning to present two sessions at their national conference, November 4-6 in Louisville, KY.

The first session was a webcast focused on ideas to engage families of diverse community groups and how libraries and public institutions can remove barriers to library access. It stressed that families are more likely to become engaged in their childrenâ Ms learning when school and library staff reach out to them. This webcast was in partnership with the PLA and was sponsored by Better World Books.

The second session was a workforce development and family engagement session presented by Scott Allen (PLA), Ashley J. Brown (co-chair FE Task Force), and Gale (Baltimore Public Library). This session had over 50 attendees from the NCFL conference.



Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Organizational Excellence
- Transformation

Fifth Activity

The FE Task Force worked with Katie Campana, PhD, Assistant Professor in the School of Information at Kent State University to provide feedback and comments their white paper for PLA. While the library field has made good progress with encouraging computational thinking for older children and teens, it has not made as much progress with incorporating computational thinking into programs and services for young children and their families. The goal of the paper is to help library staff working with young children and families see the importance of computational thinking so they will hopefully start exploring how to incorporate and encourage it in their own programs. The paper provides a basic overview of computational thinking, why it is important for young children and their families, and a few examples of how it can be incorporated into library programs. The Task Force assisted with providing real-time programs currently taking place in libraries.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Organizational Excellence
- Transformation

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

The FE Task Force will support and help implement a recent IMLS grant awarded to PLA and NCFL, â @Exploring a Program Co-design Approach to Better Serve and Engage Low-income, Latinx Communities.â The Task Force assist with the partner libraries who will develop and document methods for how library staff can support authentic Latinx parent participation in family engagement. This will engage parents in creating services designed for them in three (urban, suburban, and rural) locations. The intent is to generate strategies and practices for authentic parent participation and identify approaches and best practices that can be piloted on a national scale. The Task Force will also evaluate and refine the subscription webinar learning sessions and create a timeline for the next series to begin.

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

None at this time.

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be developed based on your group's work?

We would like to see more programming at conference that highlights partnerships between libraries and the private sector that promote family engagement. Now more than ever we are creating and implementing programs to be done at home by the whole family unit in a way that we have never experienced before.



Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all?

We absolutely see the FE Task Force benefiting from connecting and working with the Leadership Development Committee as changes in programming structure must come down from the top of the hierarchy to be successful. We also see advantages to working with AASL, ALSC and YALSA to engage libraries who are solely focused on children and teens to recognize and expand on the value of programs that are multi-generational.

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? No

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

Scott Allen and Symone Villasenor have been essential in us being successful. We would like to thank them for their continued support and for always being patient with us. They listened, responded and helped us create a successful new learning environment to educate and promote family engagement services to a broader audience and promote awareness of the importance of adult services and children's services working side-by-side. The committee could not have been better supported and we look forward to continuing this work with Scott and Symone.

Today's Date

08/31/2020



Measurement, Evaluation and Assessment Committee April-August 2020 Report

Committee April-August 2020 Report

Committee/group name:

Measurement, Evaluation and Assessment Committee

Chair name:

Linda Hofschire

Chair email address:

Hofschire L@cde.state.co.us

Staff liaison:

Emily Plagman

This report represents work done:

April-August

How many times did your group meet during this reporting period?

2-3

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

Project Outcome (PO) case study subcommittee reviewed the PO UX survey findings and brainstormed possible case study topics based on these findings, interviewed library staff for the purposes of developing a new case study, and drafted the case study.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership

Second Activity

Technology Survey subcommittee reviewed survey draft and made recommendations for changes based on the pandemic.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership



Measurement, Evaluation and Assessment Committee April-August 2020 Report

Third Activity

Typology subcommittee met to provide feedback on the typologies, with an eye toward helping PLA communicate the typologies in an accessible manner to practitioners.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership

Fourth Activity

Raising Awareness subcommittee created a webpage format for sharing existing public library data resources with the field, committee members are adding resources.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

- Advocacy and Awareness
- Leadership

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

Publishing new PO case study
Identifying a rural/small library to be the subject of a PO case study
Reviewing and providing feedback on the new data tool that will replace the PLDS
Finalizing the Raising Awareness resource and posting it online
Determining a strategy for sharing the typologies with the field
Providing input on the next round of the Public Libraries' Response to COVID survey
Developing and testing a new PO survey about the use of technology in libraries
Determining how PO resources can be updated to support libraries during the pandemic

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

Not at this time

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be developed based on your group's work?

None other than those mentioned above in the planned work for the next 6 months

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all? CORS



Measurement, Evaluation and Assessment Committee April-August 2020 Report

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? No

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

No - thank you for your support!

Today's Date

09/02/2020



Membership Advisory Group April-August 2020 Report

Committee/group name: Membership Advisory Group Chair name: Helen Rigdon Chair email address: hrigdon@siouxcitylibrary.org Staff liaison: Samantha Lopez This report represents work done: April-August

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

The group held not face to face meetings due to the onset of COVID. In April, I split up and assigned the new membership list among the group members and Welcome emails were sent. I have no information on if all the members completed the task. I did reach out to my potion of the list and received a few thank you emails back.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

Advocacy and Awareness

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

I'm currently no longer on the Connect group page so can't access the group. I've reached out to Samantha to explore the issue.

There will be no face-to-face planned due to most libraries having travel restrictions in place, including my library.

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

None

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be



Membership Advisory Group April-August 2020 Report

developed based on your group's work?

None

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all? $\ensuremath{\text{N/A}}$

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? No

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

Maybe a vaccine for the virus. :-) The restrictions of the virus is what has hindered our work, as it has everyone.

Thank you.

Today's Date

08/30/2020



PLA 2020 Conference Program Subcommittee April-August 2020 Report

Committee/group name: PLA 2020 Conference Program Subcommittee

Chair name:

Iuliane Morian

Chair email address:

juliane.morian@rhpl.org

Staff liaison:

Angela Maycock

This report represents work done:

April-August

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

At the conclusion of the successful PLA 2020 Annual Conference, in Nashville, TN, our committee completed its charge and did not complete any follow-up activities.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

• Organizational Excellence

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

There are no additional tasks to complete for this subcommittee, however, the committee members could be convened virtually to debrief on insight gained from the 2020 annual conference if PLA staff seek that input.

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

No, not at this time.

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be developed based on your group's work?

No, not at this time.



PLA 2020 Conference Program Subcommittee April-August 2020 Report

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all?

We recommend continued work with the PLA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice. The task force was instrumental in helping to craft a forward-thinking and socially-minded application process for conference programs. As a result, conference attendees benefited from diverse voices and meaningful conversations about EDISJ topics at the annual conference.

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? No

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

No, we appreciate the support we received from PLA staff.

Today's Date

08/07/2020



Task Force on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice April-August 2020 Report

Committee/group name:

Task Force on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice

Chair name:

Christina Fuller-Gregory & Lois Langer Thompson

Chair email address:

christinarfuller@gmail.com

Staff liaison:

Scott Allen

This report represents work done:

April-August

How many times did your group meet during this reporting period?

4-6

Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period.

First Activity

Twitter Chat Series:

To date, our Task Force has hosted a Twitter Chat series focused on health inequity, diversity in library staffing, and community engagement. We continue to work on additional issue-based chats to present to library workers. The purpose of these chats is to encourage librarians and library staff to begin to consider the significance and importance of these topics through a Post-Covid lens. As each of us begins thinking of how to safely and fully reopen our libraries, we want issues of EDISJ to be a focal point for these upcoming and ongoing conversations.

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

• Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice

Second Activity

PLA Magazine Articles:

The task force has been given the opportunity to contribute a monthly column to the Public Libraries magazine. This column enables us to highlight issues and concerns as they relate to EDISJ.



Task Force on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice April-August 2020 Report

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

• Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice

Third Activity

PLA Statement and Call to Action for Public Library Workers to Address Racism:
While this may not be considered an activity... our collective work on this statement reflects our commitment to supporting all public library workers in addressing systemic racism. This statement acts as a compass for how we will

Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more)

• Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice

develop new opportunities to serve the profession.

What will your group be working on for the next six months?

We will continue to host our Twitter Chats. This platform has enabled us to build an information sharing network as it relates to EDISJ. Weâ ™ve also been able to act as a connector- introducing library workers to others who have shared interests, shared work, and shared ideas.

We look forward to working with and supporting PLA Leadership Academy on a training that centers EDISJ work. The committee will also continue to contribute our monthly column to Public Libraries magazine.

While weâ ™ve had to shelve our highly successful, in-person training, with Mia Henry - Social Justice and Public Libraries: Equity Starts with Us, our goal is to identify ways in which we can implement a successful virtual training.

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to the PLA Board for discussion or action?

As a Task Force we have two concerns:

- 1) We believe that we have moved beyond the Task Force designation and should become a committee. Task Force work is often targeted, short term and focused on one specific issue. We recognize that our work is long-term, frequently evolving, and requires consistent, on-going effort and attention. To that end, we are asking to become the PLA EDISJ Committee.
- 2) This work is too big, too important to move forward strictly by committee members who meet once-monthly. Social Justice and equity, diversity, and inclusion are more important than ever before. As hard as we are working on fostering conversations, providing information, and building a network of supportive, engaged, and fully invested librarians and library professionals, we need greater support. We believe that this work could be furthered by a full-time staff member who is dedicated solely to this work.

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be developed based on your group's work?



Task Force on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice April-August 2020 Report

PLA EDISJ Task Force Equity Toolkit. This kit should feature a lexicon, conversation starters, activities, and more.

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all? Weâ ™d love to collaborate with BCALA, APALA, AILA, REFORMA, JCLC, CALA, and any other library organizations that amplify the voices of communities of color.

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members?

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

I think it should be said that the EDISJ Task Force wouldnâ ™t be able to contribute to the level that we do without PLA staff Leighann Wood and Scott Allen. They absolutely provide tremendous and highly appreciated support to our Task Force. With their continued support and the addition of a staff member who is solely dedicated to moving this important work forward, the PLA EDISJ TF could better meet our desired goals.

Today's Date

08/24/2020



Committee/group name: Technology Committee

Henry Miller Bankhead

Chair name:

Technology Committee April-August 2020 Report

Chair email address: henry.bankhead@cityofsanrafael.org Staff liaison: Steven Hofmann This report represents work done: April-August Please summarize work accomplished, decisions made, and follow-up actions determined during this reporting period. First Activity Committee collaborated on proposal that was accepted for in person ALA 20 Navigating Patron Privacy Concerns in the Digital Age> when ALA was cancelled - proposal not accepted for virtual version. Committee will resubmit next year for ALA21 Aligns with these Strategic Areas of Focus (select one or more) • Advocacy and Awareness

no

I am no longer the chair

I am no longer the chair

the PLA Board for discussion or action?

developed based on your group's work?

Are there other PLA/ALA committees your group might collaborate with to benefit the work of all?

Does the group have any policy recommendations, ideas with financial impact, or other items to bring to

Do you have any suggestions for future products or resources (excluding conference programs) to be

What will your group be working on for the next six months?



Technology Committee April-August 2020 Report

not that I know of

Have there been any issues related to meeting participation/attendance for any of the group's members? $\ensuremath{\text{No}}$

Is there anything PLA could have provided during this time that would have helped your group with its work?

Steve Hoffman is the best

Today's Date

08/03/2020