

IFRT Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

11:30am - 1:00pm AKT; 12:30-2:00pm PT; 1:30-3:00pm MT; 2:30-4:00pm CT; 3:30-5:00pm ET

MINUTES

Members Present:

Steph Barnaby, Glen J Benedict, Peter Coyl, Rhonda Evans, Johannah Genett, Kristin Green, Ray James, Keaton Johanson, Michael Kirby, Rebecca Moorman, Angela Ocaña, Kristin Pekoll, Tammy Sheedy, Jennifer Steele, Amanda Vazquez.

I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Evans called the meeting to order at 2:32pm CDT. A quorum was established.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Members introduced themselves using the Zoom chat feature.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ocaña moved to approve the agenda. Barnaby seconded. The motion carried, and was passed with no objections.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IFRT Executive Committee Minutes - [April 27, 2022](#). Barnaby moved to approve the minutes. James seconded. The motion carried, and was passed with no objections.

V. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A. Chair: Rhonda Evans

- i. Evans has been working with Ocaña to transition leadership of this committee.
- ii. Also busy preparing for all the IFRT offerings and awards ceremonies at the Annual Conference.

B. Chair-Elect: Angela Ocaña

- i. Has been busy emailing members to fill the IFRT committees. They will be emailing possible chairs tomorrow.

C. Treasurer: Jennifer Steele

- i. Nothing to report. Pekoll noted that big ALA is late getting performance reports out, and that when committee leadership transitions to new chairs, this group should reassess the budget for 2023.
- D. Director at Large: Amanda Vazquez
 - i. Nothing to report.
- E. Secretary: Rebecca Moorman
 - i. Nothing to report.

VI. REPORT FROM COUNCILOR: Peter Coyl

- A. Council hasn't met to take any action, but there has been discussion on the email list about upcoming resolutions. There has been some discussion about presentations from the TAG group, and conversations about Council Forums. There has been a tradition of counselors meeting outside of ALA Council to discuss resolutions and wordsmith documents. There has been concern that this stymies or limits discussion at ALA Council, and those meetings haven't been open to everyone. There has been discussion of some sort of resolution to discourage this practice.
- B. Eli Mina, ALA's long-time parliamentarian, will be retiring after ALA Annual. His will be big shoes to fill. Pekoll noted that the [ALA press release](#) about Mina's retirement also introduces his successor, Adrian Stratton.

VII. REPORT FROM OFFICE FOR INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM: Kristin Pekoll

- A. We're in the middle of transitioning the executive committee. Pekoll will be holding incoming and outgoing onboarding meetings with all committee chairs and officers. She has held monthly chair trio meetings (currently Rhonda, Angela, and Wanda) that Amanda will start attending. She will meet with Rebecca and the new Secretary, with the Directors at Large, and so on. These meetings will begin in June, with some spilling into July.
- B. ALA is in a brand new headquarters, so they have had to change the way they ship materials to conference. They no longer own the train trucks they used to, having a much smaller footprint. They will be shipping materials in smaller boxes, and the staff who are all working off-site have to go into the office to find everything. There will be limited supplies available. Rebecca will bring a binder of past minutes for the year in case we need to refer back to anything. Documents to share will be in an open Google Drive.
- C. [Unite Against Book Bans](#) public facing campaign is in full swing. Please share with family and friends, to gain the support of people who aren't necessarily in the education and library industries and might not understand the issues like we do.

- D. Tina Coleman, staff liaison for the membership office is organizing volunteers for an “Intellectual Freedom War Room” at the Membership Lounge at conference. There might be an opportunity for more IFRT members to volunteer, to answer questions about intellectual freedom, or connect folks to resources. Two slightly different roles: Ray will be staffing a table on membership in general, and another table will be dedicated to intellectual freedom, since it’s such a hot topic right now. Barnaby suggested naming the table “What IF?” A lot of support for the idea, and people would probably staff one-hour shifts. Let Kristin know if you are interested.
- E. Ocaña pointed out that this IF table will be where we stage the *Banned Books take over DC* materials. Huffaker came up with the idea of a “flat Stanley” project, where people can take laminated banned book covers all over DC and take selfies with them. The group brainstormed a few titles to include.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Bylaws Committee: Kristin Green
 - i. Vote for new [proposed language](#) of the Membership Committee's charge description. Coyl moved to approve the proposed language, and James seconded. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.
 - ii. Vote for new [proposed language](#) of the Executive Committee's charge description. Barnaby moved to approve the proposed language, and Moorman seconded. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.
- B. Coalition Building Committee: Ray James
 - i. Nothing to report.
- C. Immroth Committee: Johannah Genett
 - i. Nothing to report.
- D. Programming and Events Committee: Steph Barnaby
 - i. Please go to Conference and attend the events.
- E. Publications and Communications Committee: Michael Kirby
 - i. Working on final report, still waiting for a few submissions. Setting a deadline of June 1, so we can get it out by Conference.

IX. LIAISON UPDATES

- A. Kristin Green: Round Table Coordinating Assembly Standardization Task Force

The task force met on May 5, and started with a review of the [team's charge](#), to confirm that standardized dues are being implemented. Green referenced the [Summary of Dues Standardization for Round Tables](#) that she shared with the group. Most are comfortable with \$15 dues, and there was a lot of discussion about free

round table membership for students. Several groups have concerns, including New Members Round Table, since most of their dues come from students. Green inquired about discounts for multiple round table memberships, and very few members join more than one or two round tables. There was also discussion of three-tiered membership, with each round table determining their own levels. Pekoll pointed out that standardization is supposed to make the structure less complex, and give members a more consistent experience from round table to round table. Green asked for our feedback about dues or IFRT membership in general. We all agreed that IFRT is a very well run round table. We also discussed the possibility of sharing funds among round tables, but Green said the focus tends to be inward, not collaborative.

X. OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE ROUND TABLE

- A. Washington Nationals game at ALA Annual (Rebecca)

Moorman suggested a group ticket buy to a Nationals - Pirates game during Conference. There was great enthusiasm from a few people, and a suggestion that we make it part fundraiser. In the end, it didn't pan out to arrange this through the round table.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Barnaby moved that we end the meeting, and Steele seconded. Evans adjourned the meeting at 3:33pm CDT.