

SustainRT Steering Committee & Committee Chairs Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2022, 1:00 EST

In Attendance

Chair - Tina Chan

Committee Members - Jenn Washburn, Lisa Kropp, Jennifer Embree, Erika Jenns, Jen Ripka, Mandi Goodsett, Katherine Witzig, Jen Ferriss, Jenny Garmon

Members and Guests - Julie Finch, Linda Seguin, Danielle Colbert-Lewis, Tera Ray

Steering Committee Updates

1. An ALA executive board update was shared on ALA Connect. (Sara)
2. [Website update](#) (Christina)
3. Round Table Coordinating Assembly [update](#) (Lisa)
 - a. Lisa attended meetings for Process and Dues recently. The goal is to simplify the membership model.
 - b. No changes will begin until Sept. 1, 2023 and first the membership must vote on the changes.
 - c. They provided scenarios and asked assembly members to rank each option. Lisa ranked according to preference those scenarios which kept student membership free or low-cost, as student membership is free in our current model.
 - d. In addition to standardizing many of the membership fees, protections have been proposed for roundtables that may be impacted.
 - e. Questions and Comments:
 - i. "What comes next?" The survey results will be shared and hopefully we will have a majority to move forward with the proposals for the membership.
 - ii. "Is this a permanent assembly?" I believe this is a task force.
 - iii. I think the RT Coordinating Assembly predated this process.
 - iv. "I hope they can go with free student memberships! Seems like a long shot, but I think it would be a good idea in the long run."
4. [Bylaws update](#) (Lisa)
 - a. The template for bylaws is not mandated but it is encouraged.
 - b. The only changes being requested to our bylaws are those needed to be consistent with the requirements from ALA.
 - c. Mat Bollerman, Casey Conlin, and Lisa Kropp were on the bylaws taskforce this past year and focused on incorporating the triple bottom line into the bylaws.

- d. They also decided to remove the language for free student membership since it is unlikely student membership will remain free after 2023.
 - e. Changes to bylaws: Steering Committee approves changes by Nov., changes are then sent to Danielle to be included on the spring member's ballot.
 - f. Bylaws are also included in the procedures manual.
5. ALA press release about award recipients (Kelsey and Jenn W.)
6. ALA Council Committee on Sustainability update (Tina)
7. ["Libraries and Sustainability" Virtual Book Club](#); apply by August 19! (Tina)
 - a. Question: Mandi G. - "How many people have applied? I can't make every meeting and didn't want to take someone's spot if there was a lot of demand."

Tina - There is a limit of 100 participants but I don't know if the group is full yet.
8. Funding speakers at LibLearnX and ALA Annual (Tina)
 - a. Do we want to fund and how much would we want to provide?
 - b. Jen F. - We should be able to pay for speakers, as in an honorarium. We just need to decide on a budget. Last year we also found co-sponsors for programs.
 - c. Mandi G. - Didn't we bring Bill McKibben one time? I wonder if he charged a fee?

Tina - I will look at past speaker fees.
9. Upcoming Rainbow Round Table liaison to SustainRT (Tina)
 - a. We will have someone from their table attend our meeting and other Round Table's meetings.

Committee Chairs Reports

- Awards (Kelsey Flynn and Jenn Washburn)
 - Date of most recent meeting: 7/28/22
 - Web updates have been submitted for both awards.
 - Kelsey is working with QPL on the blog.
 - Diversity in Sustainability awardee (sourav) is still awaiting funds.
 - We have adjusted the timeline to avoid late funds in the future. Both nomination forms will be released in November and the timeline for announcement has been moved up so that we are not competing with ALA Annual for press releases and check requests.
 - We would like to change the name of the Diversity in Sustainability stipend to "New Voices in Sustainability".
 - Question -
 - Jenny G - Can the awards committee be outside ALA SustainRT? Tina - Committee must be ALA and SustainRT members.
- Education and Programming (Heather Heckman, Jenny G. reporting)
 - Date of most recent meeting: 8/16/22
 - Discussed ideas for webinars and for ALA annual; you can review (and weigh in on!) our programming ideas in [this Google doc](#)
- Membership (Katherine Witzig)
 - Date of most recent meeting: 8/10/2022

- Discussed the recent membership statistics update; planned for setting up this year's Mentor Program
- For the mentorship program: mentors should have 3+ years' experience while mentees should have less than 3 years' experience. The emphasis is on sharing perspectives and learning together!
- Public Advocacy and Awareness (Sarah Tribelhorn and Erika Jenns)
 - Have not met yet, the first meeting will be in Sept.
- Publicity and Outreach (Beth South and Lauren Bissonette, Mandi reporting)
 - Date of most recent meeting: 8/10/22
 - Discussed future publicity and outreach initiatives, such as the monthly discussion via ALA Connect around Sustainability topics (especially triple bottom line) and starting author interviews as a blog/newsletter feature.
 - If you have discussion topics or questions you'd think would be good, please share any and all ideas to eabrockm@iue.edu or lauren.bissonette@duke.edu.
 - Would like to still highlight committees, so don't be shy: fill out the committee spotlight [questionnaire](#).
 - Next spotlight feature will be the Public Advocacy and Awareness committee
 - Issues with the blog still ongoing- trying to figure out who the main admin is and where the blog server is hosted.
 - Any outreach or promotion needed? Fill out the [Outreach form](#).
- Sustainability Resources (Angele DeNeve and Jen Ripka)
 - Have not met yet, the first meeting will be in Sept.

Steering Committee Session

Quorum: Five in attendance.

1. Approve minutes from July 21, 2022 meeting (Jenn W.) Jenn E. moves, Mandi G. 2nd, minutes approved.
2. [Treasurer's update \(Marcy\)](#) - most recent financial report through February 2022
3. 2023 elections/nominating committee update (Lisa)
4. No new business.
5. Meeting Adjourned at 12:56 pm CST.