

American Library Association  
Intellectual Freedom Round Table  
Virtual Executive Committee Minutes  
May 30 2018  
3:00-4:30 pm EDT

I. CALL TO ORDER: Charles Kratz, Chair

Chairperson Kratz called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m., and took a roll call of the meeting.

Attending: Charles Kratz, Cyndi Robinson, Mack Freeman, Sarah Houghton, Kristin Joy Anderson, Shelia Bonnard, Eldon Ray James, Bill Marden, Wanda Mae Huffaker, Eric Johnson, Larissa Gordon, Michael Furlong, Laura, Linda Williams, Lisa Hoover, Tiffanie Wick, Emily Knox, Eleanor Diaz, Kristin Pekoll, Steph Barnaby, Ashley Cummins, Doug Archer, Floyd Pentlin, Freya Anderson, Keith Weimer, Molly R., Robbie Nickel, Scott D., Shanna Hollich, Steve Pokusek, Martin Garnar (Names are listed at the attendee listed them in the virtual conference room.)

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA- Eric Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda, and Sarah Houghton seconded the motion. The agenda passed unanimously.

III. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE 2018 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE MINUTES (CHICAGO, IL): Charles Kratz

Minutes available here: <http://www.ala.org/ifrt/meeting-minutes>; draft minutes on ALAConnect

Bill Marden noted that the discussion about the conference program was not included. It was not included because it did not have an attached action item. Charles Kratz and Ashley Janet Brown offered arrangements to have the minutes revised prior to Annual Conference.

Robinson moved to approve the minutes, and Houghton seconded the motion. The minutes passed.

IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Cyndi Robinson (2018) and Charles Kratz (2019)

Robinson thanked everyone who stood for election.

Kratz announced that he had accepted Robinson's request to be the next nominating committee chair, and he would be asking people to stand for election for the upcoming term.

V. IFRT BUDGET/FINANCE REPORT: Steve Norman

Steven Norman was unable to attend the virtual meeting, but added a report to ALA Connect. Chairperson Kratz reported that IFRT was in good financial shape.

VI. EMERGING LEADER PROJECT PROPOSAL: Mack Freeman – Action Item

Mack Freeman shared an Emerging Leader project proposal at the meeting. The proposal is available on ALAConnect. If this project is selected, a group of Emerging Leaders would create a series of videos on Intellectual Freedom topics surrounding children's literature and working with children in libraries. The intended audience would be adults working with children to educate them on IF issues.

Freeman asked the Executive Board to vote on this project to approve it. Robinson made a motion to approve the proposal, and Houghton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and Freeman agreed to submit the proposal on IFRT's behalf.

## VII. REPORT OF OFFICERS

### A. Chair: Charles Kratz

- ALA Emerging Leaders Poster Presentations & Reception – Friday, June 22, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, MCC 345
  - Chairperson Kratz asked that if a Board member is available to please go by this event and support, Angela Ocana, IFRT’s Emerging Leader.
- IFRT Awards Recognition and Fundraising Breakfast with Raffle– Saturday, June 23, 7:30-9:00 am, MCC 218 – Order your Breakfast tickets and Buy your Raffle tickets.
- IFRT Raffle supporting our Awards program - <http://www.ala.org/rt/ifrt/raffle>
- IFRT Chair’s Program – Big Data in Libraries - Saturday, June 23, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, MCC 278- This should be a great program. Bill Marden has done a lot of work to get ready for this program.
- IFRT Board Meeting – Sunday, June 24, 3:00-5:00 pm, MCC 338

### B. Chair-Elect: John Mack Freeman

Chair-Elect Freeman reported that he had made several appointments for IFRT committees. He stills needs some more appointees for the Strategic Advisory Special Committee and the Education Task Force.

### C. Directors: Kristin Joy Anderson- no report,

Sheila Bonnard- no report

Sarah Lynn Houghton- no report

Eldon Ray James- apologized for missing Midwinter meeting, but explained that he was in a Cuban hospital after falling ill. Kratz and others assured James we were grateful for his recovery.

### D. Secretary: Ashley Janet Brown asked that everyone please consider supporting the IFRT raffle at Annual Conference.

## VIII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Program Committee: William Marden has prepared a program for conference. He reported on program Big Data in Libraries - Saturday, June 23, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, MCC 278. Marden had a call for questions for the panel and gave his email address [WilliamMarden@nypl.org](mailto:WilliamMarden@nypl.org).

B. Bylaws and Organization Committee: Cyndi Robinson- reported on the IFRT Handbook that the Bylaws and Organization Committee is ready for review. She thanked everyone for their comments. Kratz planned to release the draft to the board and committee chairs for comment with a two week deadline.

C. Membership Promotion Committee: Wanda Huffaker reported that membership was up over 100 members from last year. Membership Promotion has been connecting members as the renew.

D. Publications & Communications Committee: Eric Johnson had completed a draft of the IFRT report with the addition of a “member spotlight” and includes the award winners. Eric Johnson reported that the committee had had success adding Steph Barnaby and Keith Weimer as Social Media Coordinators. Kristin Pekoll asked if there was anything procedural that needed to occur, and Kratz reported that both Stephanie and Keith had been appointed to the Publications & Communications Committee. Stephanie and Keith concurred.

D. Coalition Building Committee: Larissa Gordon- no update.

E. John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award Committee: Michael Furlong reported that he was excited about Lindsey Whittington

F. Eli M. Oboler Award: Laura Kolutsky- not available at the meeting to report.

G. Merritt Fund Promotion Committee: James Teliha- not available to report at the meeting.

## X. REPORT FROM OIF: Ellie is seeking volunteers for the Stand for the Banned Booth at ALA, and she gave a shout out to Wanda for volunteering!

There are new Banned Books Weeks products, and they will be available in a subscription box.

IFC is seeking for feedback on two *Library Bill of Rights* interpretations for Meeting Rooms and Services for People with Disabilities. Please share widely.

There is a new ALAConnect. This includes a lot of new features. Pekoll asked that members to update their profiles. There is a possibility that ALA will do away with listservs and will move entirely to ALAConnect.

Pekoll shared the Challenge Report for the last year.

IX. REPORT FROM IFRT COUNCILOR: Martin Garnar

A. Resolutions affecting intellectual freedom that may be presented to the ALA Council from other units or individual members. If so, IFRT will need to review them.

Garnar reported that the MLS/MLIS requirement or MLS preference provision in the ALA Executive Director Search will likely be brought to council during ALA Annual 2018 because even though the membership voted to have an MLS requirement, the total number of members voting did not reach the 20 percent threshold needed to make the vote binding. Garnar sought guidance from the round table. Members had mixed feelings about the requirement. Some believed that the MLS degree should be required for the ALA Executive Director, while others wanted to keep the MLS a preference during the search. A consensus was not reached by the group.

XI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE ROUND TABLE

Ray James commented that IFRT should begin thinking about its 2019 ALA Annual Conference program, and who should be seated on the program jury. Chairperson Kratz commented that the program jury seat for IFRT was every other year, and this would be an “off” year for IFRT. James reiterated that the IFRT should be thinking about the 2019 program.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair-elect Freeman moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Huffaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:09p.m. EDT

Respectfully submitted,  
Ashley J. Brown  
IFRT Secretary