

Approved
OLA Membership Committee Meeting
Minutes
January 24, 2006

The OLA Membership Committee met at the Midwest City Public Library on January 24, 2006. The meeting was called to order at 10:05. Those attending were Melissa Weathers, Catherine Cook, Tori Gregory, Linda Pye, Cylinda Richardson-Martin, Kay Boies, and Earlene Piercy with her daughter, Anita.

Minutes: The Committee discussed the minutes of the 11/29/2005 meeting and approved them with one correction. The correction was to change "Office Depot" to "Staples" under *Ideas for Conference Basket, Office Supply Basket*. During the discussion, Tori questioned whether all the minutes had been approved from previous meetings. A check of previous approved minutes showed that they had been.

Membership Report: Kay Boies did not have a membership report since she has been busy moving into her new office. She reported that OLA has rented office space at 310 NE 28th St. in Oklahoma City. To get to the new office, go to the 1st stoplight North of the State Department of Education Building, then turn West and go 1 ½ blocks. There are 2 buff rock buildings with a parking lot in the middle, and the OLA office is in the buff rock building that is further west. It has a keypad entry, so call if you want to visit. Kay now has a new phone number: (405) 525-5100.

Since it was turned down for a loan to purchase office space, OLA decided to lease office space. There is a 1 year lease for the period 1/1-12/31/2006. The office is upstairs (1 flight of stairs) and there is no elevator. Sybil Connelly, a retired school library media specialist who has been active in OLA, is now working at the OLA office 10 hours per week. Her duties vary, depending upon what is needed to be done during the hours she is scheduled.

OLA has purchased two 6' tables and eight chairs for the new office. Later Kay will have a wish list of office supplies if anyone chooses to donate, or there is an Office Fund to which we can contribute. The list will probably be on the OLA website. Also, there is a possibility that there will be an OLA office shower later on. Proceeds from the basket auction at the OLA Conference will go to the Office Fund instead of scholarships this year. Kay is planning on having an Open House for her new office during the afternoon of Legislative Day, March 7.

Kay emphasized that there are three OLA funds to which members can contribute: 1) the Office Fund, 2) the Endowment Fund, or 3) the Building Fund.

Conference Update:

DROCs Rocks – Tori reported that many speakers have been confirmed. Chairs of divisions and roundtables were asked. Some Chairs could not participate in the Program, but they are sending substitutes. Tori read off the names of the Divisions and Roundtables that she has confirmed for the DROCs Rocks program. It was discovered that some had been left out, one of which was the Support Staff Roundtable. Earlene said she could represent that one. Tori mentioned that a few of the Chairs she had contacted in November had not responded to their e-mails. Committee members suggested that she follow-up with another e-mail.

Tori suggested that we have buttons made for DROCs Rock speakers so those speakers can be easily identified. These should be buttons in bright colors with the name of the division or roundtable on them, and they could be used year after year. Cylinda Richardson-Martin volunteered to make the buttons since her library system has a buttonmaker.

1st Timers Orientation: Notepads & pens may be needed for the First-Timers Orientation. At the last meeting, the suggestion had been made to try to have the orientation after the First General Session at future conferences. Kay mentioned that the original purpose of the program was to acquaint newcomers with OLA before the First General Session so they would have a better understanding of the First General Session. Also, she said that would interfere with the "No Conflict" time. It was decided that we should leave it as is.

Kay mentioned that the theme for the Thursday night All Conference Reception will be "Alice in Wonderland." The Conference Preview is being printed now, but she will mail them as soon as they come to her, and that could possibly be next week.

The First General Session speaker was going to be Steven Abrams from SIRSI, but he couldn't do it since his boss decided he needed to go to Europe at that time. The speaker now will be Bill Knott from Colorado. He will speak on TABOR, among other issues.

There will be only one luncheon on Thursday. The speaker, Joe Raiola who is the senior editor of *MAD Magazine*, will speak on censorship. There will also be some authors at the OLA Conference, one of which is Dayna Dunbar.

Membership Brainstorming:

Tori asked Kay when a membership list will be up on the web page. Kay answered that they are currently working on that and it should be ready within the next few weeks. It will have the name, institution, telephone number, e-mail, fax number, & position title. It will be in alphabetical order, but keyword searching can also be done.

The Committee decided to follow up on ideas that had been thrown out during previous meetings. Tori read the list of brainstorming ideas from the September meeting.

- Finding out why former members quit is still one that the Committee could later pursue.
- We need to try to reach different audiences. Kay mentioned that some people don't care about the intangibles of membership; they don't realize how valuable the intangibles are. Librarians have been very successful at the Capitol with issues such as UCITA. Librarians caused that to fail. She also mentioned that some of us join because we think we are suppose to while others want OLA to do something for them. Following this discussion, the Committee decided to make flyers showing how OLA can help librarians, explaining what some of the intangibles of membership are.
- Linda mentioned that since mentoring has come up often during discussions, maybe we should do something about that. Kay said OASLMS was the only group doing any kind of mentoring, but since the OASLMS membership has now dropped, they haven't been doing much.
- During the discussion of mentoring, Earlene suggested matching an OLA member (geezerette) with a newcomer for mentoring throughout the Conference. This would be done at the First-Timers Orientation. Tori was concerned that there would not be enough of us to do that since the Membership Committee members would likely be the only attendees besides the newcomers.
- Instead of doing the above, the Committee decided to create a list of things to do at the Conference to help first-timers. An example would be to look for the first-timer ribbons and do something to make them feel welcome. Also, we need to remind them that the Thursday night reception is free. Kay said this list could be e-mailed to conference attendees before the Conference. Kay will be sending out a bulk mailing the week of our next meeting, so she can slip the list in that. Each of us needs to come up with a list of things to do at Conference and bring the list to the next meeting. If we can't come to the

next meeting, we need to e-mail the list to Tori or Melissa. We will discuss the list and come up with a list of 10 to send to the OLA membership.

- In addition to the above list, we also need to bring ideas for a flyer, "What OLA Can Do for You and What You Can Do for OLA," to the next meeting.

Conference Baskets:

Catherine said she hadn't checked on the automotive basket as she said she would, but she will do it. Melissa already has some items for it.

Linda and Earlene brought items and baskets that could be possibilities for the candle/relaxation and the mystery baskets.

Earlene is sure that she can fill a basket with donated Staples items.

The Committee will still try to have four baskets: Automotive, candle/relaxation, mystery books, and office supplies.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

--Submitted by Linda Pye, Secretary of the Membership Committee