

SustainRT Steering Committee and Committee Chairs Meeting

March 14th, 2024, 1:00 EST

In Attendance

- SustainRT Chair, Mandi Goodsett
- Committee Members and Chairs: Pixie Rose, Jenn Washburn, Tera Ray, Lauren Carter, Jen Ripka, Erika Jenns, Jenny Garmon, Tina Chan, Lauren Read, Jen Ferris, Sarah Tribblehorn, Jennifer Embree, Elisa Coghlan, Angele DeNeve
- Guests: Ray Pun, Michelle Mussuto, Larissa Brookes

ALA Executive Board Update

- ALA Presidential candidate Ray Pun spoke about campaign and commitment to sustainability.
- ALA executive board update, see email sent to members for latest update. (Sara not present)
- SustainRT Emerging Leaders Report (Lauren C.)
 - Project to promote carbon offset donations and reduce waste at the annual conference.
 - Ideas include additional opportunities to donate at conference, mandatory offset with registration, vendor offsets, and water filling stations. Some of these ideas have been proposed and Jen Ferris recently spoke to the ALA Executive Board about reaching carbon neutrality by 2025.
 - Jen Ferris agreed to help put the project team in touch with ALA staff to discuss ideas and to share her knowledge of past ideas and challenges associated with carbon offsets. She shared this page <https://2024.alaannual.org/sustainability>

Committee Chair Reports

Awards (Jenn Washburn and Tera Ray)

- Date of most recent meeting: March 1
- We have two applicants for each award.
 - Update both awards have a few more applicants.
- Extending the deadline for both awards to April 1, 2024.
 - Web updates and outreach requests submitted.
- Please help spread the word!!

Education and Programming (Jenny Garmon)

- Date of most recent meeting: March 7
- Big updates on our webinars and our program for ALAAC

- ALAAC 2024 - Sunday, June 30, 11am-12pm. Three of us will be there in person, neither Katrina nor I are sure we have the personal funds to go in person.
- Reached out to Justine, thanks to a tip from Madeleine Charney, and we may have a partner for a virtual option that would happen simultaneously
- "...[Community Adaptation Learning Exchange](#) (CALE) is seeking professionals to explore the ways climate change is now a part of their profession... They are interested in presenting on how libraries have adapted their services and programming to respond to extreme weather events, disaster preparedness, and community resilience."
- The team of 7 are "are all very excited about this and 100% on board."
- Could we extend our program by 30 minutes to ensure we have enough time to facilitate the conversation in person and virtually?
- Kacper's webinar - March 18, 2-4 pm ET
 - Values that Sustainability Round Table is founded on.
- Diana's webinar - Apr 16, 10 AM CT
 - [Seed Libraries](#), highlighting a library in Slovenia and potentially partnering with the seed library in Kansas City
- Mandi's webinar - May 1, 6 pm CT
 - May is Mental Health Awareness month! Mandi will host the [Climate Mental Health Network](#) in connection with AASL)
- Jenny's webinar - May 16, 12-1 CT with Hazel Onrud of the Curtis
 - [Library in Maine](#) and their AMAZING [library of things](#) collection that helps to promote sustainable sharing over consumerism. They are also committed to supporting the SDGs and are a climate resilience hub and I hope to cover that as well.
- The Resilient Activist is planning a webinar with me just for librarians about the Climate Cafe, they've scheduled that for May 17
 - Requested to pay \$40
- Jenny's webinar (might just make this a brief write-up!) - June
 - A progress report on the Climate Cafe project (summing up our pilot project and reflections from the May webinar with The Resilient Activist).

Membership (Lauren Read)

- Date of most recent meeting: February 26
- Devised a list of 'housekeeping' site pages, welcome letter, and member interest survey.
- Discussed having a member showcase and virtual poster session, other ideas were fundamentally for next year.
 - Elisa mentioned that the member spotlight is always looking for people to feature and the showcase participants could also be included there.

Public Advocacy and Awareness (Sarah Tribelhorn and Erika Jenns)

- Date of most recent meeting: March 7
- Tote bag collection at ALA to highlight reuse and recycle
- Scavenger hunt/Digital passport to include sustainability, e.g. carbon offsets, reusable water bottle, sustainable swag, tote bag donation, etc. Can we plug into what GameRT are doing?

- Following up with library organizations regarding a sustainability pledge
- Publicity and Outreach (Lauren Bissonette and Elisa Coghlan)
- Date of most recent meeting: March 12
 - ALA Connect [Discussion Questions](#) - please feel free to add question
 - Blog update: Still unable to create posts, Web Support has bumped up the issue
 - Interview with Emerging Leader Lauren Carter. What to do with the interview while the blog is still on hold?
 - Content to advertise:
 - ALA-SLI National Climate Action Strategy Working Group Open Forum
 - Deadline for SustainRT Awards extended
 - Free membership code for students
 - Earth Day Ideas? Share with committee chairs.
 - Mandi suggested sharing SustainRT resources each day leading up to Earth Day.

Sustainability Resources (Angele DeNeve and Jen Ripka)

- Date of most recent meeting: March 11
- Finishing blurbs for the final selections for the book list. Our goal is to have the list ready to share by the end of next week. We will be in touch with Publicity & Outreach with an update soon!

EDI Assembly (Jen Embree)

- January meeting was rescheduled for March.
- No updates at this time.

Round Table Business

- Councilor report (Jen F.)
 - Town Hall 3/19/24, tomorrow is the last day for sharing questions and Jen will share a link to [join the call](#).
 - ALA LLX 2026 is canceled, the 2025 conference will go ahead as planned but LLX may not continue.
- Status of 2024 SustainRT Elections (Tina)
 - Members should have received an email with ballots to vote for new officers.
- Strategic Planning (Mandi)
 - Focus group meetings:
 - March 7, 10am ET - SustainRT Members
 - March 15, 10am ET - SustainRT Steering Committee and Chairs
 - March 15, 1pm ET - Non SustainRT Members
 - Strategic Plan Process Updates:
 - https://csuohio-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/6000463_csuohio_edu/Ec72x7JNwvRGUvS_OYiMPuoBqSvlec3gBZKB-u-ISGkQfw?e=FclJkH
 - Strategic Plan Questionnaire: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hClrDMduDk2CAOC19yXU_elF6INjgh4AgZhdJoahHQ/edit?usp=sharing
 - Involvement of Amanda Comstock

- ALA Annual
 - Plogging Event (Tina). “Plogging” is jogging (or moving at your pace) while picking up trash and SustainRT will be doing it Saturday at conference.
 - Mandi is working on scheduling the meetings at ALA Annual. Mandi is not planning to attend and is looking for other officers to lead the meetings.
- SLI-ALA National Climate Action Strategy Working Group March 14, 2pm ET (right after our meeting!)
 - Consider attending if you can:
https://ala-events.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_n1DtTcnSRP2bvm2tkdQ1jQ#/registration

Steering Committee Session

Quorum: Yes, 6 in attendance

- Approve minutes from February 8th, 2023 meeting (Jenn W.) Tina approves, Pixie seconds, all approve.
- Treasurer’s update, no update from ALA (Marcy not in attendance).
- New business?
 - Two funding requests: \$50 for Gen Z participant in future webinar; 1-2 National Park membership prize incentives for SLI-ALA survey participation
- Adjourned at 1:59pm EST