American Library Association

**Library History Round Table Executive Committee**

Sunday 28 June (8:30-10am Central time)

**Recording**, https://sjsu.zoom.us/rec/share/1eh-Fp3zrVNIfJ3K-H3Bf6oPM5q7X6a81ydP-fUMmhqydg8VJFn86BR4wL6ZpSUJ?startTime=1593351048000

Password: < 4l+46j6N >

The question now, as before, remains: how to “elevate the professional consciousness” toward the institution’s history?

**Attendance:**Anthony Bernier (Chair), Ellen Pozzi, Bernadette Lear, Steven Knowlton (Secretary-Treasurer Elect), Jennifer Burek-Pierce, Jenny Bossaller (Past Chair), Allison Kaplan, Amanda Belantara, Brett Spencer, Carol Leibiger (Member-at-Large),  Barry Seaver, Danielle Ponton (ALA Liaison), Jamane Yager (Member-at-Large), Eric Novotny (Secretary-Treasurer)

I. Welcome and ground rules for the meeting (Bernier) (start Zoom recording) 

II. Introduction to the Meeting/Introductions (Bernier)

a. **Welcome** newly elected Executive Committee members   
Bernier welcomed Amanda , Steven,  and Bernadette to the Executive Committee and invited them to introduce themselves.

b. **Holley** Update   
Bernier conveyed our speaker's great regret about missing the scheduled virtual Holley lecture.  She promised to make a recording that we can use as we see fit.  Bernier will share if/when he receives recording.  LHRT will not pay the usual Holley honorarium or speaker fees.

c. **Research Forum**, today 2:30-3:30 (Bossaller, Pozzi) 2 mins   
The 2020 LHRT Research Forum theme is: Turning Corners.

Sunday 28 June, 2:30-3:30pm (Central)  (on Zoom)

Speakers:

Dr. Jennifer Burek Pierce (University of Iowa) – “Turning Toward Technology: Implementing Computers and Non-Book Resources in U.S. Libraries, 1940-1963"

Dr. Gregory Leazer (UCLA) and Dr. Robert D. Montoya(Indiana University) – “Origins and Reinforcements of the Public Library-School Library Divide, and the Crisis of Polygovermentailty”

III. **Approval of Minutes Mid-winter meeting** (Tuesday 14 January 2020, 1-3PM Pacific)

[https://connect.ala.org/viewdocument/lhrt-executive-committee-meeting-mi?CommunityKey=74a03e09-c2ed4908-aa9e-ee4d536cb959](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fconnect.ala.org%2Fviewdocument%2Flhrt-executive-committee-meeting-mi%3FCommunityKey%3D74a03e09-c2ed4908-aa9e-ee4d536cb959&data=02%7C01%7Cecn1%40psu.edu%7Cf5bec87faf8944a18eff08d83d648366%7C7cf48d453ddb4389a9c1c115526eb52e%7C0%7C0%7C637326849190288862&sdata=wGtKOPasPsTncFoWHy4Gv23GGg7QYuSXUlWZKACRi%2B8%3D&reserved=0)The meetings from the Midwinter meeting of the Executive Committee were unanimously approved

IV. Approval of Agenda

V. **Consent Agenda**   
For future meetings, Bernier will ask that officer and other reports be prepared in advance and approved by “consent”.

VI. **Reports**

**ALA Liaison Officer** (Ponton)   
ALA Liaisons have not received financial statements since January or membership data since February.   There was a proposal before ALA Council that Round Tables and Divisions lend 25% of net assets to ALA (would be paid back).   This was not approved.  ALA is also discussing changing the operating agreement with Round Tables, increasing the amount ALA receives from the Round Tables "off the top" to cover general operating expenses.

**Secretary-Treasurer** (Novotny)   
The latest financial report for LHRT is from Jan 2020.  We are solid financially, but should remain cost conscious going forward especially in light of potential ALA budget cutting measures.

**Membership and Outreach** (Novotny)   
Latest report is from Feb. 2020.  We are continuing our slow steady increase.  As of February, LHRT had 442 members (431 personal and 11 organizational).  This is an increase of more than 100 members in the last 4 years.     
The membership and outreach committee was inactive this year due to the Secretary-Treasurer's inattention. 

E. **News & Notes** (Spencer)   
The blog report is online, [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m-p1l45En-CqZq\_z5Y1pmcrrQtIBo464NHNGNU9lUPE/edit](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fdocument%2Fd%2F1m-p1l45En-CqZq_z5Y1pmcrrQtIBo464NHNGNU9lUPE%2Fedit&data=02%7C01%7Cecn1%40psu.edu%7Cf5bec87faf8944a18eff08d83d648366%7C7cf48d453ddb4389a9c1c115526eb52e%7C0%7C0%7C637326849190293858&sdata=QDlc7UG1hbhspoxlqI8LnNRJzg4ONe6SQhsjUahzzoc%3D&reserved=0)The blog is on pace to exceed last year’s viewership.  Plans going forward include a call for additional volunteers and more library history interviews.   As the publication matures, Spencer looking to formalize roles and considering an advisory board to help guide the publication.

F. **LCHS** (Novotny & Lear)   
Issue 4.1 was published on time in Spring 2020.   Issue 4.2 is with the Penn State Press and will be in mailboxes in Fall.    
LCHS continues to be produced during the pandemic. Press staff are working remotely, as are your editors. Special quarantine measures are in place at the production warehouses.    
We accepted a proposal from Dr. Nicole Cooke for a theme issue on Black Women librarians.  This is scheduled for Issue 6(1), Spring 2022.  Coordinating with Spencer to publish related book reviews and essays.

Our publishing agreement with the Penn State Press expires March 2021. The LCHS editors will share a recommendation with the Executive Committee for discussion at MidWinter 2021.

G. **Website** (Pozzi)   
Pozzi is making updates and urges anyone to send revisions/corrections/additions.  Would like to see the LHRT Bibliographies migrated to a searchable database.  Novotny will follow-up on this.

H. **Networking**

**Facebook** (Novotny)

 The LHRT facebook pages has 896 "likes" and 949 "follows".  Impact can be hit or miss with the average post seen by about 100 people.  Most of the content is from *News and Notes*posts which automatically appear on the Facebook page.  Working well enough and "likes" are growing, but not much engagement.  An intern focusing on this could likely enliven.

2. **Twitter**(Spencer)

Natalie Romano, blog volunteer, has transitions to a new assignment and will no longer maintain. Brett will consider a new person for this role when inviting News and Notes volunteers.  The LHRT twitter account is linked to LHRT *News and Notes* so still getting new content regularly.

I. **Library History Seminar** (Stauffer)   
Bernier conveyed an update from Stauffer.  The event has been delayed to Spring 2020 due to Covid.  Looking at rescheduling for January 2021, but will depend on what options are available for hotel and other arrangements.    

J. **Award Committees** Updates

1. **Dain** (dissertation award) [Seaver, Chair]   
Call for nominations has gone out to various groups/listservs.   Discussed reaching out to the Library Research Round Table – Jesse Shera Research Committee.  They often receive library history related nominations.

2. **Davis** (article award) [Spenser, Chair]   
Committee has selected a winner and Spencer will announce at LHRT Research Forum.  Dr. Laura Helton's article is available open access,  [https://hcommons.org/deposits/item/hc:28677/](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhcommons.org%2Fdeposits%2Fitem%2Fhc%3A28677%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cecn1%40psu.edu%7Cf5bec87faf8944a18eff08d83d648366%7C7cf48d453ddb4389a9c1c115526eb52e%7C0%7C0%7C637326849190298848&sdata=uDFqV2h7z2TPSiu%2BvVbdBW1ntGhoF9PeVuQPORcsgLg%3D&reserved=0)   
On Decimals. Catalogs and Racial Imaginaries of Reading

Action Item:  Executive Committee asked Spencer submit a proposal regarding the eligibility of book chapters for the Davis Award.  Chapters have been treated inconsistently by previous award committees.

3. **Gleason**(book award) [Kaplan, Chair]   
The committee has several promising submissions after the latest call for nominations.  Will continue to promote. 

4. **Winsor** (essay award) [Mediavilla, Chair]   
Bernier read a report submitted in advance.  The committee has selected the award winner, Dr. Julie Park, Special Collections, Bobst Library, NYU.   Her essay is entitled, "Infrastructure Story: Los Angeles Central Libraries Architectural History"

VII. For Decision:

**Budget** (Novotny) 5 mins   
The Executive Committee ordinarily approves the 2020/2021 fiscal year expenditures (starting Sept 1) at MidWinter.   Anticipated expenses include approximately  $4,000 for the journal ($10/member).   $500 for the Winsor, $1,500 for Holley (will not be spent) and $1000 for the Library History Seminar.

VIII. For Exploration:

A. Discussion of **ALA Forward Together** Steering Comm on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE) (ideas for response (membership drive, merge, etc)

Bernier introduced the open discussion noting that he is less concerned about an “existential” threat to ALA’s existence.  ALA has received federal loans and other support to help alleviate the feared worst scenarios.  Still face serious challenges.   
Ponton provided an update on the status of Forward Together.  ALA Council passed this on to the “next step” in the process, Additional votes have to happen before it can become official.  Expect that LHRT will need to have around 500-550 members to meet the 1% membership requirement for Round Tables.   Round Tables would have three years to get membership numbers to this level.  

The pros/cons of various approaches were discussed if LHRT cannot meet the membership threshold in time.  This included re-organizing as an ALA interest/discussion group, merging with a related ALA entity like LRRT, or operating independently from ALA.

Action Item: Bernier will appoint a subcommittee to explore options in-depth and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.

1. **Bylaw discussions** (Lear)   
Lear has had discussions with the Chair of LIRT and other groups on coordinating Round Table by-laws.   (Forward Together envisions a standard set of bylaws across Round Tables).   Developing a soft template with suggested sections / structure (officers, dues) and some standardized language (what to call Executive Committee, Chairperson)    Hopefully reduce burden on ALA of supporting so many different groups.  Will need to retain some flexibility  (e.g. LHRT combined the positions of Secretary-Treasurer given our small size)

2. **Small Round Table Survival Options** (Bossaller)   
Bossaller is representing LHRT on this informal group.   The group has worked via email but not met yet.

C. **Statement of Support and Solidarity**

The Executive Committee unanimously endorsed the ALA Resolution for a more Equitable Association, [https://lhrtnews.wordpress.com/?s=statement](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flhrtnews.wordpress.com%2F%3Fs%3Dstatement&data=02%7C01%7Cecn1%40psu.edu%7Cf5bec87faf8944a18eff08d83d648366%7C7cf48d453ddb4389a9c1c115526eb52e%7C0%7C0%7C637326849190303833&sdata=0oT7TkwRqO8UPOIg3tgpRpGTI%2B5RDYZ%2B5TWzDrrSK1Y%3D&reserved=0)

IX. Future Dates:

A) **LHRT Mid-Winter**: Tuesday 12 January 2021

Zoom: https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/94950856275

Password: 01122021

B) Annual Conference, Chicago, IL(?): 24-29 June 2021

Likely LHRT Executive Committee: Sunday 27 June 2021 (8:30-10am)

2 mins

X. ADJOURN