

# SustainRT Steering Committee and Committee Chairs Meeting

Meeting Minutes: August 10, 2023, 1:00 EST

## In Attendance

- Chair, Mandi Goodsett
- Committee Members and Chairs: Tina Chan, Angele DeNeve, Erika Jenns, Jen Ferriss, Jenn Washburn, Jen Ripka, Jennifer Embree, Lauren Bissonette, Lauren Read, Marcy Bailey, Sarah Tribelhorn, Elisa Coghlan, Pixie Rose, Jenny Garmon
- Guests: Jane C., Pamela Gordon, Polly Parkinson, Saptarshi Lahiri, Kristen Foland, Megan Zimmerman, Sarah Cornacchione, Francesca Garibaldi, John Burgess

## ALA Executive Board Update

- ALA executive board update (Sara)

## Committee Chair Reports

- Awards (Jenn Washburn and Tera Ray)
  - Date of most recent meeting: 8/4/23
  - We welcomed our new member Katherine Witzig and introduced Tera Ray as the new co-chair.
  - The timelines for 2024 nominations and awards have been set, nominations will be open:
    - Citation for Wellness in the Workplace Nov. 1 - Mar. 15
    - New Voices in Sustainability Stipend Dec. 1 - Mar. 1
  - Changes to awards this year:
    - CWW - the award will be purchased directly by ALA and committee members will no longer pay out of pocket for the physical award that is presented to the winner.
    - NVS - the stipend will include the purchase of registration on behalf of the winner and a \$250 check (that should be) received at the conference.
  - Review of Strategic Plan action items:
    - 14 (Citation for Wellness in the Workplace) - The committee recommends continuing the award and would further recommend that we retain the present terms of the evaluation and the ability to discontinue the award at the end of the next plan's cycle if issues with reimbursement or purchase of the award persist.
      - Marcy is addressing our issues with Danielle, our ALA staff liaison.
    - 19 (New Voices in Sustainability) - The committee recommends updating the Actions to be more consistent with the CWW, and further

recommends that the evaluation also be changed to allow the stipend to be reviewed for continuation at the end of the next plan's cycle.

- Education and Programming (Jenny Garmon)
  - Date of most recent meeting: 8/3/23
  - Reviewed our committee's commitments (7, 11, and 13) in the SustainRT strategic plan.
  - Discussed our support of a LibLearnX proposed program about [bikepacking gear libraries](#).
    - [Sara](#) is a digital archivist based in Atlanta and her "research interests include born-digital preservation & arrangement, critical cataloging & archival description, and resource sharing to enhance gender inclusivity & racial equity in the cycling & outdoors scene through a [gear library](#)."
  - Discussed the [climate cafe](#) model as a potential nationwide SustainRT program with the [Resilient Activist](#). Following the ALA Annual program, we have 16 public and academic libraries in 10 states interested in participating.
    - Is there SustainRT funding available to support this as a pilot project and potentially ongoing program?
      - Jenn F. - we need to ask about partnerships before offering our support. Mandi G. - I will ask about the restrictions for partnerships.
      - Lauren B. - will this be a series? Jenny G. - there is a make-it-your-own flexibility but they would have materials and support
      - John B. - If we like the mutual support model but couldn't go into partnerships, could that be something we did in house for one another?
- Membership (Lauren Read)
  - Date of most recent meeting: 8/7/23
  - Attendance was essentially Lauren & Katherine, past chair, so meeting served as a good briefing and passing of the torch
  - Priority: mentoring program
  - Aim to brainstorm and implement more engagement events – social but with sustainability theme – e.g. quiz game or challenge matching up with ALA Connect monthly discussion prompts
    - Lauren B. - I love the idea of linking up to the monthly discussion question!
    - Mandi G. - Suggests working with Publicity and Outreach.
    - Jenny G. - Suggests "Project Outcome" and will bring it up with Education and Programming at their next meeting.
  - Strategic plan input: we shouldn't merely track attendance but include feedback & evaluation
- Public Advocacy and Awareness (Sarah Tribelhorn and Erika Jenns)
  - Date of most recent meeting: Not met yet - first meeting 8/17/23
  - Notes from that meeting:

- Publicity and Outreach (Lauren Bissonette and Elisa Coghlan)
  - Date of most recent meeting: 8/4/23
  - Welcome new and returning members Aja Bettencourt-McCarthy and Evan Meszaros
  - Assigned new social media roles to members
  - Starting september, we will be putting out calls for content, event sharing, newsletter submissions, etc.
  - Blog update 8/7/23: some of the blog posts have been moved over to SustainRT and they are awaiting some feedback to make sure everything is working so far. <https://www.ala.org/rt/sustainrt/sustainrt-blog>
    - Mandi G. - How do we follow this blog?
  - Outreach Form: <https://forms.gle/M2nAYht49MaosqkB9>
    - Lauren R. - What is the purpose of the outreach form? Lauren B. - It can be used to promote sustainability programs, or news from your committees.
- Sustainability Resources (Angele DeNeve and Jen Ripka)
  - Date of most recent meeting: No meeting yet, first meeting scheduled for 9/11/23

## RoundTable Updates

- Councilor report (Jen F.)
  - Last meeting was at ALA Annual in June.
  - Sustainability recommended as a Core Value along with Access, Equity, Intellectual Freedom and Public Good. Approved action to extend task force work. Next steps are defining the values and then presenting them to Council at LLX in January. [ALA CD #34](#)
  - [Code of Conduct](#) updated to include social media- Participants should refrain from posting content online and via social media that might defame, negatively affect or otherwise cause harm to individuals or institutions.
  - Working to recognize SustainRT with a resolution at LibLearnX.
- ALA Council Committee on Sustainability update (Tina)
  - No updates as the committee has not yet met.
- IFC and COPE SustainRT Liaisons needed (Mandi)
  - Mandi G. will forward the email request to committee members, to volunteer please contact Mandi.
- Emerging Leaders Project ideas (Tina C.) shared the request for ideas for projects and Zotero organization was mentioned but there may have been other ideas that would be good for an emerging leader to work on. We included the cost in our budget for this year.
  - Jenny G. - sustainability and economic development has been started so that would be a new project for a group.
  - Mandi G. - asks all committees to talk about it in their next round of meetings and brainstorm projects.
- Partnership with NMRT (Mandi G.) has been talking with NMRT for collaboration:
  - Collaborate or have a NMRT guest host on ALA Connect for monthly posts and discussion,

- Collaborate on a virtual program (climate justice, civic participation in sustainability, or climate crisis were discussed as potential topics)
  - Partner for a social event?
- SustainRT Turns 10, and Jen F. is working on a honorary resolution and Mandi G. asks that we think of other things we can do to celebrate.
- [SustainRT Strategic plan](#)
  - Please indicate in this [planning document](#) when you have reviewed the current strategic plan with your committee

## Steering Committee Session

Quorum: Six in attendance.

- Approve [minutes from June 15th, 2023](#) meeting (Jenn W.)
  - Jen F. moves to approve, Marcy 2nds, all approve.
- Treasurer's update (Marcy)
  - Marcy has not received financials since Feb., 3rd quarter results were expected back in June and we are still waiting.
- New business
  - N/A
- Adjourned at 2:03 pm EST.