DRAFT – subject to approval at January 2020 Executive Committee Meeting

Annual Meeting

Library History Round Table

ALA Annual Meeting 2019

Washington, DC

Marriott Marquis, Room Salon 14

8:30 – 10:00 am

**Attendees**: Anthony Bernier (Member-at-large), Jenny Bossaller (Chair), Steve Knowlton , Bernadette Lear, Melanie Kimball, Mary Niles Maack, Eric Novotny (Secretary-Treasurer), Danielle Ponton (ALA Liaison), Ellen Pozzi , Suzanne Stauffer (Past-Chair), Jeff Wheeler, Jamane Yager

**Report of the Chair** (Jenny Bossaller)  
The report was distributed in advance to Executive Committee Members and posted to ALA Connect. Bossaler expressed appreciation for Past-Chair Stauffer’s extensive revisions to the LHRT by-laws. The revised by-laws were approved by LHRT membership in online voting.   
The LHRT website remains a challenge with outdated information in places. Pozzi remains the primary LHRT webmaster and encourages anyone to send ideas/updates. Ponton can also make changes. Those members at LIS schools were encouraged to ask their graduate student(s) to do some usability testing. The graduate students can bring a fresh perspective to the site.

**Reports of Executive Committee Officers**:

**Secretary-Treasurer** (Eric Novotny)  
Report distributed to Executive Committee members in advance and posted to ALA Connect.   
**Budget** LHRT remains in a strong position financially, with net assets of $66,922. The latest report, however, appears to project a deficit for 2019. We have a budget allocation of $5,867 and projected expenditures exceeding that figure including overhead ($587), Holley honorarium ($1,500), LHRT awards ($1,000) and “Outside Printing/Mailing” which is presumably for LHRT’s journal ($5,840). We are not in danger of running out of funds soon, but the situation bears monitoring. Novotny will follow up with ALA and the Penn State Press as the journal charge is larger than anticipated. Starting in 2021 we should get a royalty payment from the Press to help offset the costs.

***Libraries: Culture, History, and Society* Update**Issue 3.2 is with the Press for production and scheduled for publication in Fall 2019. Includes 4 articles and 5 book reviews. The journal has been added to the MLA Bibliography and the LIS indexes from EBSCO.

We are a little over hallway through our 5 year agreement with the Penn State Press which took effect in Spring 2016. Lear and Novotny are meeting with a team from the Press in July to discuss how things are going. We will report on the substance of those conversations and we invite LHRT’s feedback on the present (and future) of the journal. Overall, as co-editors we have been pleased with the arrangement. The Press provides valuable support, including access to the Editorial Manager system for managing submissions, copyediting, and getting our content on JSTOR.

**Reports of Standing Committee Chairs**

**Membership and Outreach** (Eric Novotny)  
The latest membership report (April 2019) shows a modest increase in personal memberships with 412 in April 2019 compared to 408 in April 2018. Organizational memberships declined from 14 to 11. Overall membership increased by 1 over this time last year while ALA membership overall declined slightly.

**Communications**

**LHRT Blog** (Brett Spencer)  
Report distributed in advance. Five volunteers have been recruited and are contributing content, including an expanded international section and a new Teacher’s Corner. Have conversed with SAA about their publication *Archival History News*, and may share some content across the two publications. Spencer seeing fewer student essays - asked LIS instructors to encourage students to contribute their work. Discussed the feasibility of shooting a short video or hosting a Zoom session where Spencer could introduce the blog as an outlet for student’s library history discoveries. Lear and Novotny also willing to do a similar video on getting library history published in *LCHS*. General agreement that a Communications Committee was unnecessary. The blog editor, LCHS journal editors, and webmaster all communicate and coordinate already and the process is working well.

**Award Committees**:   
Bossaller shared this year’s winners and thanked the members of the awards committees:

* + The Justin Winsor Library History Award   
    Steven Knowlton for his article “A Rapidly Escalating Demand: Academic Libraries and the Birth of Black Studies Programs.”
  + The Phyllis Dain Dissertation Award   
    Dr. Travis Edward Ross, for “History Inc – Hubert Howe Bancroft’s History Company and the Problem of Selling the Past.”
  + The Eliza Gleason Book Award  
    Wayne and Shirley Wiegand, for *The Desegregation of Public Libraries in the Jim Crow South*.

We need to review the Awards processes and ensure that everything is up to date. Bossaller will undertake a review during her term as Past-Chair.

**Approval of the budget for the next fiscal year**Deferred to MidWinter meeting when the committee will know more about expected expenses for the Holley speaker, *LCHS,* and any expenses for the upcoming Library History Seminar.

**New Business**

**Library History Seminar**The CFP has been issued, an event website is being developed and potential sponsors contacted.

Suggestion by Maack to connect LHRT activities including the Seminar with the upcoming 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage. Possibility of co-sponsorships with other ALA groups. Could also relate to theme of Research Forum, Holley lecture, etc…

**Bylaws changes** – see Chair’s Report.   
Bylaw revisions were approved. There were some suggestions for future changes. Bossaller collecting these. She will compile and share any formal revisions with the membership next year.

**Meeting adjourned by consensus**