

# SustainRT Steering Committee and Committee Chairs

## Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2023, 1:00 EST

### In Attendance

- Chair, Tina Chan
- Committee Members and Chairs: Lisa Kropp, Jen Ferriss, Sarah Tribelhorn, Jen Ripka, Erika Jenns, Jenn Washburn, Angele DeNeve, Jennifer Embree, Beth South, Eric Tans, Heather Heckman, Lauren Bissonette, Jennifer Embree, Mandi Goodsett, Pixie Rose
- Guests: Steve Runge

### ALA Executive Board Update

- ALA executive board update (Sara)

### Committee Chair Reports

- Awards (Kelsey Flynn and Jenn Washburn)
  - Date of most recent meeting: April 21, 2023
  - Discussed committee members and plans for next year.
  - Web edits still need to be submitted.
  - Tera is following up with winners to provide information about our meeting at ALA.
  - We received the citation award and it looks great! I sent Marcy the invoice from Rivanna Designs.
- Education and Programming (Heather Heckman and Jenny Garmon)
  - Date of most recent meeting: Thursday, May 11, 2023
  - Jenny Garmon is generously purchasing books to hand out at the Resilient Activist's ALA session
  - Kacper Jarecki can serve as host for a sponsored LibLearnX panel again; he may be able to coordinate a bike ride to Baltimore, and also has asked the gear library group in Atlanta (featured in American Libraries magazine several months back) if they might like to present
- Membership (Katherine Witzig)
  - No updates.
- Public Advocacy and Awareness (Sarah Tribelhorn and Erika Jenns)
  - Date of most recent meeting: Thursday, May 11, 2023
  - We advertised the Endowment Fund trustee position via listservs and social media, in partnership with Publicity and Outreach.

- With ALA and other conferences approaching, we'd like to remind folks to submit examples of sustainable swag to the form created by Publicity and Outreach:
- We are going to move forward with the tote bag collection at the in-person SustainRT membership meeting at ALA Annual. We invite folks to bring a few, gently used and in good condition, tote bags to donate. These will go to local library Friends groups in the Chicago area.
- We connected with staff at American Libraries Magazine and are in the process of learning more about opt out options for receiving the print version of the magazine. We were pleased to hear that staff are already looking into getting rid of the polybag that some issues are wrapped in.
- Publicity and Outreach (Lauren Bissonette and Beth South)
  - Date of most recent meeting: May 11, 2023
  - Discussed outreach requests, making sure we're sharing out upcoming requests related to ALA Annual (and spacing them out so we're promoting them periodically up to the event).
  - Soliciting content for the summer newsletter. Submit content to <https://forms.gle/M2nAYht49MaosqkB9> by June 1st.
  - Blog update: They're still working on it. They mentioned that the entire ALA site is undergoing a transition, which is why I think that this is taking longer than previously discussed.
  - Chairs for next year: Lauren Bissonette and Elisa Coghlan
- Sustainability Resources (Angele DeNeve and Jen Ripka)
  - Date of most recent meeting: 5/10/23
  - Still working on gathering job descriptions and library policies.
  - Preparing a letter to mail to Justice Sotomayor about her book that was selected for our list.
- ALA EDI Assembly - SustainRT Liaison Updates (Jen Embree)
  - Links and Highlights from the March EDI Assembly Meeting
  - The March Meeting discussed the Equitable Immigration Subject Heading Cooperative's "[Libraries: Drop the I Word!](#)" campaign, [updates from affiliated groups](#), and had a panel of speakers to discuss ALA's work on the intersection of Intellectual Freedom and Social Justice.
    - Link: [Meeting Recording](#) (~45 minutes)
    - Link: [Meeting Agenda](#) (includes what was discussed in breakout sessions)
    - Link: [Interest Form](#) for those interested in participating in future discussions on the intersection of intellectual freedom and social justice.
    - Link: [Final Report](#) of the Working Group on Intellectual Freedom and Social Justice (July 2022)
  - If you are interested in joining the EDI Assembly for 2023-2024, you can sign up through the ALA Volunteer Form. It is open to all ALA members who are interested in helping ALA move towards greater equity, diversity, and inclusion
  - Any updates/programming/events/announcements to share with the EDI Assembly on behalf of SustainRT before the June 6th meeting?

## Round Table Updates

- Councilor report (Jen F.) - Council Sessions at ALA 6/24 2:30 pm, 6/25 9 am, 6/26 9 am
- SustainRT virtual membership meeting: Thursday, 6/15, 1:00 EST (Tina)
- SustainRT in-person membership meeting: Sunday, June 25, 2:30-3:30 pm, McCormick Place, room W181c (Tina)
- SustainRT tour of ALA headquarters (invitation only) (Tina)
- ALA Council Committee on Sustainability update (Tina)
  - Integrating sustainability training for new councilors.
- 2023-24 SustainRT Committee membership recruitment (Mandi)
  - Email has been sent and sent updates for the committee page on the website.  
<https://www.ala.org/rt/sustainrt/sustainrt-committees>
  - ALA volunteer form is working. Please encourage volunteers to sign up for committees and remind continuing members to renew.  
[https://www.ala.org/aboutala/committees/volunteer/frm\\_vol/](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/committees/volunteer/frm_vol/)
- SustainRT volunteer for Round Table Bylaws Task Force (Lisa)
  - Looking for 6 or 7 Round Table volunteers (from different RT's) to help review the bylaws template, and to make any necessary edits, with the aim of completing this work by August. Please email Mark Robison at mrobiso2@nd.edu if you are interested and able to help.

## Steering Committee Session

Quorum: Nine in attendance.

- Approve minutes from April 20, 2023 meeting (Jenn W.) Jen F. moves to approve, Eric Tans seconds, all approve.
- Treasurer's update (Marcy), none.
- Free student membership coupons for new SustainRT student members (Tina)
  - Do we want to give coupons? How many if so?
  - Memberships have been paid for in the past. We asked for more information about how many new student members are added each year and if the previous efforts to reduce or pay memberships were impactful.
- New business
  - Discuss potential solutions for SustainRT email access without needing to use a recovery phone number (Tina). Jen F., asked could a VOIP be used so that we can login without calling a person. Mandi is looking into setting it up.
- Adjourned at 1:57 pm EST