

SustainRT Steering Committee and Committee Chairs Meeting

Meeting Minutes: February 8, 2024, 1:00 PM EST

In Attendance

- SustainRT Chair, Mandi Goodsett
- Committee Members and Chairs: Pixie Rose, Jenn Washburn, Tera Ray, Lauren Carter, Jen Ripka, Erika Jenns, Marcy Bailey, Lauren Bisonette, Jen Smith, Jenny Garmon?, Tina Chan, Angele DeNeve, Lauren Read
- Guests: Karilyn Steward, Cameron Bowen, Amanda Hutchinson

ALA Executive Board Update

- ALA executive board update (Sara, not in attendance): no updates
- Emerging Leader (Lauren Carter): Donation portal and membership engagement planned and they have spoken to Danielle about ideas. They have also considered vendor registration donations for carbon offsets.

Committee Chair Reports

Awards (Jenn Washburn and Tera Ray)

- Date of most recent meeting: 2/2/24
- Sent out last-call press releases and outreach forms for both awards.
- Will send out follow-up/reminder emails to the state associations and programs we previously emailed about the awards.
- Only two applicants so far for the CWW award and none for the NVS.
- Will extend the deadline to April 1, 2024. – Drafting press releases for this to be sent out at the beginning of March.
- Discussion around SOAR framework questions generated ideas to ask more general questions about the awards and awards committee.
 - Do you know about the Citation for Wellness in the Workplace award? If yes, how?
 - Do you know about the New Voices in Sustainability Award? If yes, how?
 - Do people see themselves as being “diverse” or a “new voice”? Ex: What is considered a “new and diverse voice in library sustainability”?

Education and Programming (Jenny Garmon)

- Date of most recent meeting: 2/1/24
- Biggest update is that the [Climate Cafe](#) initial meeting is ready to go. We’ve pivoted to an online only session and we’ll invite our library supporters (about 20 library staff from libraries around the country), get their feedback and use that to move forward. 25 registrations have already been received.
- We’re thrilled to start preparing for ALAAC and will start monthly meetings for that purpose.

- Two additional webinar ideas have our attention:
 - We wondered if we could connect with an AASL person to discuss co-hosting the [Climate Mental Health Network](#) - “They primarily work with K-12 environments and provide support for healthy emotional responses to the climate crisis.”
 - We would like to work with Hazel from the [Curtis Library](#) and highlight their [library of things](#) that helps to promote sustainable sharing over consumerism. I’m waiting a bit to hear back if one of our members would like to take it on, but we’re looking to host that in May 2024.

Membership (Lauren Read)

- Date of most recent meeting: 1/29/24
- Finished prep for peer mentoring program
- Considered ways to utilize funds, more so next year

Public Advocacy and Awareness (Erika Jenns)

- Date of most recent meeting: 1/2/24
- Waiting on further direction for Emerging Leader Project
- LibLearnX feedback - not many people contributed to the carbon offset, need to work on how to move this resolution forward (hopefully with the help of the Emerging Leader Project)
- Discussed AI in the SOAR framework, no concrete questions yet
- Continuing work with State Lib Orgs to include a sustainability pledge for their conferences

Publicity and Outreach (Lauren Bissonette)

- Date of most recent meeting: 12/12/23
- Next meeting is next week
- Newsletter has been delayed—sorry!
- Outreach requests
 - SustainRT strategic planning focus groups
 - Mandi notes that no more participants are needed for these focus groups.
 - New Voices and Citation for Wellness awards
- Blog update: everything has been migrated—still figuring out how to make a post
 - Two items queued for posting
 - Interview with Emerging Leader Lauren Carter
 - Sustainability Swag Article with OCLC WebJunction
 - Tina Chan mentioned contacting the officer candidates for interviews.

Sustainability Resources (Jen Ripka)

- Date of most recent meeting: 1/8/24
- Working on the short list for the annual book list for discussion at their February meeting.

EDI Assembly (Jen Embree, not in attendance)

- Date of most recent meeting: December, no updates

RoundTable Updates

- Councilor report (Jen F., not in attendance)

- Sustainability reaffirmed as a [Core Value](#). ALA Executive Board is looking for volunteers to help with writing interpretations. I just want to confirm that SustainRT is willing to help and I will sign us up.
- SustainRT Virtual Membership Mtg
 - Thank you everyone for contributing! We had great attendance and interaction from members.
- ALA Annual Social with NMRT (Mandi)
 - Any volunteers to help with trivia questions?
 - Jenn W. volunteered.
 - SustainRT financial contribution confirmed by Marcy and we will contribute \$1500.
 - Tina asked about the schedule, not finalized yet. Mandi will ask about plans and whether more volunteers are needed.
- Status of 2024 SustainRT Elections (Tina)
 - Contacting candidates for their statements. Elections open in March.
- Strategic Planning (Mandi)
 - [Strategic Plan Process](#) using the Appreciative Inquiry model, we will build questions to help us to explore ideas more creatively and involve our stakeholders in the process. SOAR (strengths, opportunities, aspirations, and results).
 - [Strategic Plan Question Generation](#) the Steering Committee will develop questions, the questions will be posed to the focus groups, the Strategic Planning will develop a draft with input from their responses, and the Steering Committee will provide feedback.
 - In the meeting Mandi led a question brainstorm session, the Steering Committee used breakout rooms with SOAR to develop questions.

Steering Committee Session

Quorum: Yes, 5 in attendance.

- Approve minutes from January 11th, 2023 meeting (Jenn W.) - Marcy motions, Tina 2nd, minutes approved.
- Treasurer's update (Marcy). This information is provisional - official Q1 FY2024 quarterly report will be available when audit is completed (date unspecified).
- Student membership coupons, from Melissa Walling:
 - We recommend using this in your personal outreach to schools or students. The Social Responsibility Round Table is the only other RT who uses such a code. One of our divisions, AASL, uses the code. They distribute it to those who purchase a product. This would be another route to distribute to those students who engage with the RT in some way."
 - Mandi is drafting a form for application so we can share the code.
- New business, none.
- Adjourned at 2:10 PM EST