

**Core: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures  
a Division of the American Library Association  
2023 Board of Directors Annual Conference Meeting  
June 26; 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Central  
Hilton Chicago, Marquette Room  
Draft Minutes**

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**Members Present:**

Margaret Heller, President  
Wendy Tressler, President-Elect (left at  
2:59 p.m.)  
Angie Ohler  
Rachel Fleming  
Miranda Bennett  
Andrea Berstler  
Kevin King  
Evviva Weinraub-Lajoie  
Tyler Dzuba  
Lauren Corbett  
Thomas Lamanna, II  
Julie Reese, Executive Director

**Ex-Officio:**

Don Allgeier  
Morag Boyd  
Cara Calabrese

**Staff:**

Tom Ferren  
Jenny Levine  
Amber Robbin  
Mia Blixt-Shehan

**Absent:**

Lindsay Cronk, Past President

1. Board Welcome and Roll Call

President Heller called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

President Heller proposed that the Board enter Executive Session. Andrea Berstler moved and Rachel Fleming seconded. MOTION unanimously passed to enter Closed Session.

2. Executive Session - Closed Session

DOC 23.35 [Publications Report \(PDF; private document\)](#)

DOC 23.36 [Publisher/Vendor Relationship Draft Policy \(PDF; private document\)](#)

Executive Director Performance Review

The Board entered closed session at 1:09 p.m. No votes were taken during this time.

President Heller proposed to exit closed session at 1:53 p.m. Andrea Berstler moved and Evviva Weinraub-Lajoie seconded. MOTION unanimously passed to exit closed session at 1:53 p.m.

3. Adoption of Agenda

DOC 23.34 Board Agenda

President Heller proposed to accept the agenda with the addition of Amendment 14.a, "Lessons Learned from ALA Conference 2023." Wendy Tressler moved and Evviva Weinraub-Lajoie seconded. MOTION unanimously passed to adopt the agenda and add the aforementioned amendment.

#### 4. Adoption of Consent Agenda

DOC 23.37 [NISO Rep Appointment - Board Electronic Vote Results May 2023 \(PDF\)](#)

DOC 23.38 [April 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes \(PDF\)](#)

Core Continuing Education Update By Date/Type ([Board Connect Dashboard](#))

Core Membership Report ([Board Connect Dashboard](#))

[Informational - ALA Executive Director Report](#)

President Heller proposed to adopt the consent agenda. Wendy Tressler moved and Andrea Berstler seconded. MOTION unanimously passed to adopt the consent agenda.

#### 5. Welcome to New Board Members

Incoming 2023-2026 Director-at-Large Miranda Bennett, incoming 2023-2024 Director-at-Large Kevin King, and incoming President-Elect Angie Ohler introduced themselves to the Board.

#### 6. President, President-elect Updates

DOC 23.39 [President's Report \(PDF\)](#)

DOC 23.40 [President-elect's Report \(PDF\)](#)

President Heller highlighted the focus points of strategic planning and realignment of Core as a unit that served as center points during her year as Core President.

President-Elect Tressler thanked the Appointments Committee for its strong engagement over her year as President-Elect and noted transition-related work still needed to be done. She also highlighted the intended continuation of Section Leader meetings and Division Chair meetings, with Zoom dates for the entire year soon forthcoming.

As President, Tressler has three personal goals for the 2023-2024 period:

1. Focus on membership growth, engagement, and value and ensure that committees and sections have all the tools necessary to do their work
2. Focus on influence, reach, and reputation by growing brand identity as Core
3. Focus on financial surplus and liquidity, primarily through fundraising

#### 7. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee Report

DOC 23.41 [AEDI Survey Results Presentation Slides from Core Forum \(PDF\)](#)

Cara Calabrese provided an overview of the results for the AEDI Survey from last year's Core Forum. A potential future collaboration with the Advocacy Coordination Committee was suggested; Calabrese expressed that the DEI Committee would explore the possibility.

#### 8. Adopt Board Expectations

DOC 23.42 [Draft Board Expectations Document \(PDF\)](#)

President-Elect Tressler presented the Draft Board Expectations Document. After discussion resulted in additional comments and suggestions, Tressler moved to create a subgroup of the Board who will work on incorporating the ideas raised in the meeting the Board Expectations Document and bring it back to a future meeting. Rachel Fleming seconded the motion. MOTION unanimously passed to create the subgroup.

Tressler, Calabrese, Lauren Corbett, and Angie Ohler volunteered to serve on the subgroup.

#### 9. Operating Agreement Working Group Implementation Update

Miranda Bennett provided an update from the Operating Agreement Working Group. Four different models are currently being discussed for potential percentage-based rates. The Working Group was going to seek an extension and clarification from the ALA Executive Board. The Core Board will review the matter again at that time.

#### 10. Budget Report

DOC 23.43 [FY23 Budget March Financial Commentary \(PDF\)](#)

DOC 23.44 [FY24 Draft Budget \(PDF\)](#)

Calabrese offered her update on the budgets. As of March, Core is lower than budgeted in revenue but also lower than budgeted in expenses. There is optimism that membership and continuing education will increase in FY24. For FY24, budgeting has remained conservative during the development phase of the division.

Andrea Berstler moved to accept the preliminary budget as written. Evviva Weinraub-Lajoie seconded. MOTION unanimously passed to accept the preliminary budget.

#### 11. Strategic Fundraising Action Items

DOC 23.45 [Fundraising Report \(PDF\)](#)

Joseph Yue and President Heller briefly summarized the Strategic Fundraising Action Items document. The Board then entered small groups to discuss these action items. Initiatives 1, 2, and 3 came out as agreed-upon strengths.

#### 12. Endorsement of Joint Statement on the Metadata Rights of Libraries (10 min)

DOC 23.46 [Metadata and Collections Section Report \(PDF\)](#)

Morag Boyd summarized the Joint Statement on the Metadata Rights of Libraries. She highlighted that Canadian and Indigenous libraries were likely to need special consideration in what the Statement proposes.

After discussion resulted in several concerns, Tressler moved to table this discussion for a future meeting. Weinraub-Lajoie seconded. MOTION passed to table the discussion. All approved the motion except for Lauren Corbett, who abstained.

At this point, Weinraub-Lajoie moved to extend the meeting by 15 minutes. Fleming seconded. MOTION unanimously passed to extend the meeting.

### 13. ALA Division Councilor Report

DOC 23.47 [Division Councilor Report \(PDF\)](#)

Councilor Rachel Fleming offered their report. Following discussion from the previous meeting, they highlighted that the dissolution of divisions to form Core was found to be in order. They also reported there was consideration of moving Annual Conference from the fourth weekend of June to avoid conflict with Pride events.

### 14. Meet with Emerging Leaders

Karleen Delaurier-Lyle had to leave early and left an introduction via Zoom chat and the other Emerging Leaders were not in the meeting room, so introductions from the Emerging Leaders will be disseminated to the Core Board via ALA Connect.

#### 14.a. Lessons Learned from Annual Conference 2023

The Board discussed lessons learned at Annual Conference 2023. Summary of issues was that Core programming should be more central, in larger rooms, and that possible presenters needed more guidance. The Core Forum branding and promotion slides that were used in the Metadata Rights of Libraries panel were noted as positives.

### 15. Thank You to Outgoing Board Members

President Heller gave certificates and offered statements of gratitude to outgoing Board members Evviva Weinraub-Lajoie, Tyler Dzuba, and Lindsay Cronk. Evviva Weinraub-Lajoie offered her own statement of gratitude to outgoing President Margaret Heller.

### 16. Adjournment

Andrea Berstler moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:18 p.m. Evviva Weinraub-Lajoie seconded. MOTION unanimously passed to adjourn meeting.