**RMRT Board Meeting**

**April 17, 2024**

**4 pm (Eastern)**

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm (Eastern) by Chair Shelley Lauer-Bader. A motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2024 was made by Pat Hogan and seconded by Ann Marie Pipkin. Motion passed.

**Attendees:** Shelley Lauer-Bader, Chair; Naomi Angier, Chair-Elect; Kay Cassell, Treasurer; Mimi Morris, Secretary; Lisa Kippur, Director and Membership Chair; Ann Marie Pipkin, Director; Pat Hogan, Director; Steven Yates, Liaison to the Executive Board; Danielle Ponton, RMRT Staff Liaison; Toni Negro, member; Phyllis Bornstein, member; Sara Kelly Johns, member; Jana Prock, member, Betty Landesman, member.

**Announcements:** Lisa and Shelley gave an update on the new website. Lisa had training last week and is excited about all the new and exciting things we can do. Danielle said everything will be brought over to the new site, and we can make changes after May 1.

We have been in contact with United for Libraries. As retirees, we are in a good position to advocate for libraries and encourage others to become advocates. How can we best be partners? We hope to meet with them at Conference, perhaps planning a joint program in Philadelphia.

We will also try to partner with NMRT, perhaps with a joint social in Philadelphia. There are opportunities for mentorship and professional development between our groups.

Election: Sara Kelly Johns is our new Chair-elect. Mimi was re-elected as Secretary, and Nann Hilyard and Pat Hogan as Directors.

The RMRT Facebook page does seem to be active. Ann Marie said she can send a message and it shows up. We can search using RMRT or ALA\_RMRT. Who monitors this? Danielle will check.

The new organizational operating agreement will change relationships for all of the roundtables with ALA. Costs will increase, depending on which formula is used. We will have an opportunity to vote on options. Shelley will post the documents if anyone is interested.

Steven reported on Executive Board actions. Board meetings began Friday. The 150th anniversary Capital Campaign is planned. We need development staff, supporting software, and updated policies. The latest organizational audit was good—the cleanest in years. “Fund Libraries” launched this week. “Dear Appropriator” letters can populate a form letter to send to legislators, available at ala.org/fundlibraries. We are watching efforts in some states to pass legislation banning use of state funds for ALA memberships or activities. The effort in Georgia failed, but it passed in Louisiana. Still waiting to hear about Alabama.

**Committee Reports:**

**Bylaws:** Ann Marie reported that our bylaws are now called “procedures” and were ratified on January 11, 2024. The procedures are available on ALA Connect and in RMRT Board documents.

**Membership:** Our updated membership, as of March 2024, is 427. This is an increase over the 2023 total of 395. The Member of the Month promotion is off to a good start!

The Every Member Counts plan has been tabled until after Annual Conference. Danielle will order luggage tags and eyeglass cleaning cloths, and brochures for the membership booth. Danielle will send sign-up schedules for booth hours soon.

**Treasurer’s Report:**  Danielle said that numbers have just been released and she will update us as they are reviewed.

**Annual Conference:**

Awards: Danielle has received four applications. Kay offered to review them again this year. All have been for the Horrocks award, but one of those applicants can receive the Gadfly.

All meetings have been scheduled as requested. The United for Libraries newsletter will highlight our programs.

Tour registration: attendees can register in the app. Naomi will change the description in the conference scheduler. There is a limit of 30; transportation is on your own.

Saturday’s membership meeting and book discussion will be back to back. The book discussion prompt is anything about California.

President’s Program: San Diego Zoo speakers will show how libraries and conservation efforts collaborate for the benefit of Zoo programs. Presenters have already been paid.

Friday Night dinner will be at Fish Market. We have a reservation for 20. Email Shelley or Naomi to RSVP.

Our next meeting will be at Annual Conference.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Morris

RMRT Secretary