

MINUTES: January 2020 LfO meeting

In attendance: Deborah, Star, Hannah, Erin, Emily, Mayra, Geralyn, Alice

Absent: Mark, Linda, Lisa, Kathy, Jessica, Carly, Jennifer, Molly, Valeria

Notetaker: Deborah

Welcome to **Alice Perez Ververa** of Estacada!

Alice attended to see if she might be able to participate as an LfO committee member. She has joined our email list and will do some LfO cohort recruiting at the CSD March meeting, which will be held in Estacada.

Mark Peterson, new Administrator!

Mark had the excellent notion that LfO would benefit from having a consistent administrative position, kind of like Shirley Roberts at OLA. And then he agreed to be that person! Hooray for us all!

Travelers' report and ensuing discussions

- **Action Item:** Find a way to communicate to prospective Travelers that flexibility is a useful trait in this role, and it will help if they have a comfort with/tolerance for chaos and unpredictability. An experienced traveler may have built that kind of tolerance, but people don't have to have traveled before. But some way to convey that foreign travel + possible language challenges + the sensorily overwhelming FIL + being in conference mode + all the selection requirements can be a lot to deal with at once, and are they up for it?
- **Action Item:** Could LfO create an informal video or webinar on FIL survival tips?

Star:

- The featured country was India; we got to see beautiful representations of that country (including princesses).
- Multicultural Books & Video was great, but there were a few issues estimating expenditures along the way. LfO received totals every morning and after lunch, but that still leaves a lot of time estimating. **Action Item:** We will need to reevaluate the \$20 buying average that we originally received from WCCLS.
- Buying for schools presented new challenges. Erin was a help on selection for schools!
- *Jessica and Star bought wonderful items for the LfO OLA party

Erin:

- A **Google form** for schools and specific numbers/direction on books could be useful.
- Having a traveler from a school (if we are representing schools each year) is needed.

- Erin's [FIL notes and feedback](#).
- We might want to have Travelers talk by phone directly with participating schools to get a closer idea of what they need/want/can't use.

From Jennifer:

- Add note that travelers are not responsible for choosing a distributor once those emails start coming in. However, travelers should look at book vendor catalogs to see if they see any books that might interest them. - DG: added ✓
 - New: [Info to share with Travelers doc](#)
- A note about possible vaccines in the travel section. - DG: added ✓
- The other form I'd like to revise is the one where libraries tell us what they want us to purchase. This year, all libraries gave vague instructions, and so I think it'd be easier on the travelers if we had stricter instructions so that we know that we are fulfilling the library's need.

Note: Much **discussion** on this point. With just a few LfO reps buying, and multiple, comparatively small budgets, and constrained time, we have found that specific instructions are quite difficult to follow. **Action Item:** We've agreed to have a look at the Selection form and see if it can be usefully modified.

- As a first-time participant, I found most of the instructions to be quite simple to follow.

Recruiting the 2020 Cohort

- **Applicant recruitment & support team = Hannah, Geralyn, Erin**
- [Applicant recruitment & support team tasks & timeline](#)
- Updating the application & accompanying information - see next item.
- Some places we can make our pitch:
 - OLA - the Accidental Spanish Cataloguing workshop (**Emily/Mayra** will include)
 - CSD - 1/16 - Mock Geisel--Geralyn; 3/15 at Estacada - **Alice** can announce
 - OASL spring conferences (**Erin** will pursue)
 - PLD?
 - **Other...** (anybody remember other specifics, or want to add some here?)
- Some virtual places we can recruit:
 - Erin will write an article for the spring OASL *Interchange* and email on the OASL listserve; Libs-Or; Kids-lib; REFORMA-Or; etc...
- Role of website & social media -- **Action Item: Digital Team** to figure out

2020 Updating the Application (+ related info in Application Instructions & FAQ)

- **Decision:** Split the application into two applications: one for public libraries and one for school libraries.

- **Decision:** To give people time after OLA to get those applications in; this year's application period will be **March 15-May 15**.
- To do: Hash out selection criteria to be the perfect sweet spot of specific and broad, to satisfy both participating libraries and on-the-ground selectors
- **Action Item:** **Deborah** will do some initial updates incorporating today's notes. ✓
- **Action Item:** **Hannah and GERALYN** will lead this charge. They will contact **Erin** for help with the school library application. They'll create some drafts to share with the group by our next meeting in February. ✓
- **Action Item:** **Erin** will put together a quick 'n' dirty **recruitment clips video** that we can use in soliciting applications. She'll send an email requesting tiny clips of various participants that she can splice together. **Deborah** will send Erin a list of whom to contact. (Speak up if interested!) ✓ ***ideas for clips:** why go to FIL, why apply if you're not going (sending money gets you great books), specific highlights as far as books that are available, opportunity to meet other librarians and network, collection development opportunity, books that aren't available in the US, tacos (kidding, kind of)

Application Statistics

- **Action Item:** **Emily** offered to pull together the statistics from all of our applications (the things we ask like demographics, circulation & collection stats) and analyze them
 - as well as follow-up with the libraries from earlier cohorts for updated stats to see if we can measure our impact.

LfO presence at OLA - party, poster session

- **Decision:** proceed with the idea of a **Libros For Humanity game** (party team will refine this plan: Mark, Hannah, Deborah)
 - Erin: There's a **Cards Against Librarianship** someone already made if we want to use it. Free on the web :)
<http://shelfcheck.blogspot.com/2014/01/cards-against-librarianship-lets-play.html>
- **Urgent:** **Time slot and location TBD!**
 - Thursday night? - what conflicts do we have on Thursday night? When is Drag Queen Bingo happening?
- **Undecided:** **OLA poster session - who's point person to organize?**
 - [Proposal](#) due: Friday, February 28, 2020 - **Kathy** will submit
 - Do anything different with it this year?
- When are most of us attending OLA?
 - Thursday: Star
 - Friday: Star, Lisa
 - Saturday: Star

- Not attending: Alice, Erin
- (There but already booked up): Jennifer (every day), Emily
- Don't know yet: Geralyn

Logo update

- Elizabeth will get back in touch with graphic designer Alan when he is back from traveling mid-January, so we can wrap up [his contributions](#).
- For now, we have the basic logo he designed, which Hannah and Mark already made into buttons for the team to take to FIL (thanks Hannah and Mark!) and which we can use on OLA swag and other materials.



More graphic design update

- From Mark, who works at MHCC: “Students in our integrated media program (which includes graphic design) are required to complete a job for either an on-campus project or for a non-profit in order to complete the program. I have spoken with the faculty for that program, and **they are interested in having some of their students work on the LfO campaign**. I will be meeting with the program leads next week to talk over more of the details.” **Cool!**

Following up with [Outreach](#) Reports

Action Item: Geralyn will pursue the following:

- 2018 cohort - need their final outreach reports
- 2019 - need their Outreach Planning tool if we don't have it yet, & to reach out and encourage them to remember to plan their 3 outreach events

Next meeting:

Action Item: Hannah will do a Doodle poll. ✓ We're looking at the first few weeks of February.

Things for Next Time

Web page: now that we're kind of leveling up as a project, might be time to discuss upping our web page game. What should that look like?

- [Things to eventually add to the website](#)

Recruit a couple more LfO folks? (Deborah has two in mind, Hannah has one)

Need to update current FAQ (Deborah: has done a draft update ✓) **and make a FAQ section for school library information**

Thank you card for Deborah's friend Chris, who gave us a financial donation

Policy/mission question raised by a conversation Hannah had with an interested teacher -