



September 20, 2019, ABOS Board Meeting minutes

Susan called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. Central Time.

In attendance: Susan Parkins, Cathy Zimmerman, David Kelsey, Lori Berezovsky, Tina Williams, Kim McNeil-Capers, Wendy Ramsey, Michael Swendrowski, Brock Hutchison, Zach Roberts, Katrina Ford and Rose Huling

Absent: none

Secretary Minutes

The August 16, 2019 Board Minutes have been distributed to all board members and reviewed. Cathy moved to accept the July Minutes as written. Zach seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

David reported that the Finance Committee has sent out the most recent registration report and finance snapshots. ABOS has grown substantially since last year.

President's Report

Susan said it's time to review Spectrum Scholars. In the past we've offered them free membership to ABOS. After discussion, the board agreed to offer free memberships to Spectrum Scholars again this year. Susan will pass the information on to the Membership committee.

Susan's ARSL report: The conference was held in Vermont. There were great networking opportunities. ABOS didn't have a vendor table this year. Susan came back with good conference ideas, such as a conference app, the use of volunteers, and more that she would like us to consider using for our own conferences.

Email Vote: There was a vote conducted by email concerning approval to reimburse Susan Parkins for her ARSL conference trip. "The board approved \$900 each for two people to go to ARSL. Only one of us went due to unforeseen medical circumstances. The hotel expense would have come out of the other attendee's portion of her \$900. Altogether, between us we would have stayed under the allotted amount of \$1800. Since I had to pick up the full cost of the hotel bill it puts me over the \$900 by \$325.29." The board approved with 9 votes for and 1 no response. Motion carried.

Committees

Advocacy: Kim said that the committee hasn't met, but plans to meet at the conference.

Awards: Cathy reported that press releases have gone out concerning the award winners. The John Philip award has been ordered; it looks a little different than last year's.

BOIR: Michael reported that things are moving along. Fundraising efforts have increased in recent weeks. They are looking for a chair for the Fundraising subcommittee. Testing is being done. The committee is meeting with Amigos next week concerning accepting payment to get reports, like having a button on our website to click, or paypal.

Bylaws: Tina reported that the committee looked at old Bylaws committee notes to get a full picture of what the Bylaws committee had done in the past. The committee determined that they need to add a Membership category, but otherwise they just needed to clean things up. We can discuss the new membership tiers in October at the General Meeting to get membership input.

Conference Planning: Susan reported that the deadline for sending things to Lori for the conference booklet is Sept. 25. The Excel spreadsheet is ready to go.

Vendors: Cathy added that Winnebago upped their sponsorship to Gold level and will sponsor Networking Nite.

Bookmobiles: Monday, October 21 is the hotel's Grand Re-Opening after their major remodeling, so no bookmobiles will be allowed to arrive before Tuesday, October 22. Last year we had 13 bookmobiles attending, this year we have 7. For the vendors, this is a last minute thing, since it all depends on whether or not the bookmobile comes off the production line in time. It also depends on the bookmobiles in service within a drivable distance from the conference site.

Registrations: Conference registrations are going well. Susan got an idea for our name badges at the ARSL conference to make it easier to distinguish who paid for what meal.

Marketing: Lori reported that she has received the conference bags. T-shirts are in the works and will be shipped to the hotel. There was a misunderstanding concerning the lanyards, but that has been corrected and the lanyards and name badges are in the process of being ordered. The booklet is as up to date as it can be at this time. The newsletter has been printed and ready to read.

Hotel x 2: Our secondary hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn, which is down the block from the main hotel (Embassy Suites).

Registration closes on October 1.

Susan also reminds the board to send in their photos for the slide show at the conference so the membership can get to know us.

Board Expectations: Lori is introducing the author and keynote speaker and will handle merchandise sales.

Everyone should talk to the vendors and thank them for their support. David reminded us to talk to as many attendees as possible too. Make them feel welcome and comfortable.

David and Wendy will handle anything involving money at the registration table.

Everyone will present a committee report to the membership.

Rose and Susan will look at logistics and update announcements at the conference.

Rose and Tina will do Tech. We could use more people to check things at the beginning of each session.

We'll put out a call for volunteers for the registration table, name badges, and photographers.

ABOS cocktails: Susan will check with the hotel about offering two specialty drinks (that we may be able to rename for the duration of the conference), with 10% of the proceeds going toward our Carol Hole awards. Non-alcoholic versions of the drinks would be available, too. Susan got this idea from the ARSL conference.

Email: check your ABOS mail account often from now until the conference.

Long Range Planning: Susan reported that due to a general consensus Sandusky, OH has been taken off the conference site list. While the hotel was wonderful, getting from the airport to the hotel was problematic. We are done with long range planning for the year.

Membership: Katrina reported that the committee was researching various like organizations and their membership pricing. They continue to reach out to state organizations in an effort to get our name out there.

Technology: Brock reported that the committee has been updating the website and getting up-to-date conference information out there. Presentations are due to Rose or Brock by Oct. 1. Brock mentioned moving to a different Gmail model that allows all participants to see all files. The board was concerned about accidental edits or deletes and sensitive financial information.

Old Business

- ABOS Annual Conference, Omaha, NE (Oct. 23-25)
- ALA Mid Winter, Philadelphia, PA (Jan 23-28, 2020)
- PLA Conference, Nashville, TN (Feb. 25-29, 2020)

New Business

The board discussed which conferences in the coming year we should go to and represent ABOS. It was suggested that we drop PLA since they do not offer a complimentary registration fee. We'll attend ALA Midwinter (Cathy will attend), and ALA Annual.

No vote is needed on this; we discuss it each year. After this year's conference the 2020 budget will be set. It may mean that Cathy will have out of pocket expenses for ALA Midwinter since registration has to be done now to get the best rates on hotel, etc.

We discussed the MacMillan ebook petition, and whether or not ABOS should get behind this cause as an organization. After discussion, we decided that it was more of an individual thing rather than an organizational thing. We will re-post ALA's post about signing the petition.

Michael A. Smith from the IRS wants to partner with ABOS. We are not clear on whether that means handing out tax forms or offering tax help. Susan will get more details.

The next board meeting will be August 16 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time. This is a return to the original meeting time.

Susan adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m. Central Time.