Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday, August 14, 2021
9:30 a.m.
ZOOM

9:30 a.m.: Welcome/Meeting Call to Order
1. Agenda - Tonya motioned to approve the agenda, Rachel H. seconded. Motion passed.
2. Attendance/Roll Call – Gail had everyone introduce themselves including where they teach and how many years they have been Librarians. 11 members present: Gail Becker, Tammy Bart, Rachel Hodges, Tonya Foster, Martha House, Tabitha Hogan, Alice Reinert, Carmaine Ternes, Shyla Biju, Rachel Yoder, Amanda Harrison.
3. Approval of Minutes (Rachel Hodges) – Rachel H. read the minutes. Carmaine motioned to approve the minutes as is, Tammy Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Reports:
1. Treasurer’s Report - Amanda Harrison shared her financial report document. $1971.00 was placed into our account for purposes of fulfilling the Covid-19 book grant from the Kansas Leadership Center. Carmaine received this grant for attending the Kansas Leadership Center the grant was used to purchase books from Watermark and benefits the Wichita Public schools. Alice Reinert motioned to approve the treasurer’s report, Tonya Foster seconded. Motion passed.
2. Past President (Tonya Foster) – T
   a. Tonya shared about the 2021 Summer Institute for school librarians. Dean Jeong said we only had 9 participants signed up a few weeks before the workshop. We ended up having 32 participants after marketing it more on social media and list serves. We didn’t have enough attend to break even in costs. ESU said they will make up the difference. Tonya mentioned the virtual format may have affected attendance. Many people seem to be getting tired of everything (in the world) being virtual.
   b. We will need a new speaker next year. Please share ideas on future speakers.
   c. Jewelia was awarded the AASL National Conference award and will go to AASL with Tonya this year.
   d. Tonya hasn’t had a chance to work on finding members for the Professional Excellence Committee.
3. 1st VP – (vacant) – nothing to report
4. 2nd VP (Rachel Yoder) – nothing to report
5. President’s Report (Gail Becker) – Gail mentioned the possible need to create a KLA representative position and the ability to give that person voting rights. Martha said she would need to look into this and check with the KLA guidelines. Martha and Gail will move forward with looking into this.
6. District Reports:
• Southeast 20-21 (Tabitha Hogan, Director; Heather Kelly, Asst. Director)
  They have been in contact with Tammy Benham and Robin Hargrave. Their goal is to focus on “How School Libraries can support the district dyslexia initiative”. They are looking for guest speakers. No date set.
• Northeast – (Alice Reinert, Director; Shyla Biju, Asst. Director) Tonya has a few recruits in mind for directors after Shyla. Tonya will help Alice since Alice hasn’t had the opportunity to walk through the process as an assistant director yet.
  West – (Karen Wilson, Director; Tammy Barb, Asst. Director) They haven’t begun planning as of yet.
7. Awards: Cathy Paget emailed Gail. She will get President and Vision awards ordered when she is notified of the winners. Gail will need to send out the nominations link for these awards and this hasn’t been done yet. She is hoping to have a deadline of Sept. 20 for nominations. Executive Council will choose the Vision award. The President award will be chosen by the award committee.
8. WAW: Bev Buller

In June, selection committee members submitted their final round of nominations for the 2022-2023 awards master lists. 72 books have been nominated and those with 60% readership will be considered for the lists. The selection meeting is scheduled for August 28 at William Allen White Library on the ESU campus. Members must have read 50% of the nominated titles and be present to participate.
Ann Schuster, Deb Southworth, and Christy Reams continue on the committee as KASL representatives. KASL will choose a replacement for Deb as her three-year term will be up after the selection meeting.
The awards website continues to suffer from not having a dedicated webmaster; the program director has been updating it as she has time (she is also dean of the library, so her time is very limited). I am hoping they will have the correct celebration information up soon.
The 2021 awards ceremony will be held virtually on Saturday, October 2, using the format from last year. Both authors are on board with the plans to talk to kids the night before and then accept their awards and give an acceptance speech on Saturday.
Plans are underway for a 70th anniversary celebration in October 2022 on the campus of Emporia State University.
Michelle Hammond and I plan to introduce the 2022-2023 master lists on Thursday, October 28 at 3 p.m. at the KLA conference in Wichita. I will post the new lists on the KASL and KAN-Lib listservs later that day.
I can’t say this enough: this awards program is—and has always been—an almost completely volunteer program. Its director and executive secretary juggle its administration along with their many other tasks running a university library. It can’t continue without the support of its end users, so I thank everyone who promotes the master lists and enables voting with Kansas students from the bottom of my heart. I wish it could be as robust as other states’ programs, but we do the very best we can with our limited resources.

9. Retired KASL: Carmaine Ternes – They haven’t had as many socials due to the
pandemic. Please send names of anyone recently retired, Carmaine needs their personal email accounts.

Things to Discuss:

- How to replace Julie Doyen – Discussion was had about whether Rachel Yoder would feel comfortable moving up to 2nd VP. A possibility might be Tonya slipping into 1st VP to give Rachel Y. more time before moving up or Gail serving 2 consecutive years. Rachel Y.’s shared concerns about the possible amount of traveling, coordinating in-person meetings, district workshops attendance coverage, and AASL, and ALA conference attendance and having young children. Gail said our main goal is looking for strong leadership within the association and not ability to attend all conferences. Martha shared the guidelines to review. Martha feels the connection with KLA may be an area that we need to keep our hand in and make our voice heard. Gail inquired about the possibility of creating a KLA representative position to take that off the plate of the President especially due to KLA meetings occurring during the school day and the difficultly that presents for many of our members that teach during the day.
  - Gail motioned that Tonya slip into the 1st VP position and Rachel Yoder stay at 2nd VP. Rachel Y. mentioned after the discussion that she felt she could move up to the 1st VP position. She would like to have the opportunity to attend the AASL conference. Gail withdrew her motion.
  - Tabitha moved to move Rachel Y. up to the 1st VP position and Tonya 2nd VP for upcoming year. Alice seconded. Motion passed.

- KLA - Martha House has been attending as a KASL Rep but does not have voting rights. Gail and Martha will look into this more.

- AASL – Jewelia and Tonya are attending.

- Kansas Library Conference Update: October 27-29 Wichita, Hyatt
  We need to begin looking for an Author for 2022. Please email Gail any names of authors you would like Gail to check into. Gail mentioned the possibility of bringing in Meg Medina. She has books at multiple age levels. It would be a good idea to find someone who has older (Jr. High/High School) level books as we have a primary author, Bob Shea, coming this year.

- Professional Development – see Past President report above for Summer Institute report. We need to look into what direction we want to go for next summer. Possibly in person.

- Kansas State Library Report: Leslie Weishaar
  The Kansas State Library has purchased access to TumbleBooks that includes classroom use. Trainings will be scheduled this fall.
  The Kansas State Library Advisory Board met on March 3, 2021
  Items of specific interest to school librarians that were discussed at the meeting include:
  The Kansas State Library staff is working on internal processes to make it easier to help libraries set up access to the State Library of Kansas resources more quickly and are currently updating support resources.
  - Resource Guides for Educators can be found at: https://kslib.info/1441/Resource-
  - Guides-for-Educators Resource Tutorials can be found at:
The Kansas Book Festival will be held at Washburn University on September 18, 2021.

Michael Lang with Talking Books shared that the law requiring a medical doctor’s signature to determine eligibility for the Talking Books program has been amended. Educators, social workers, case workers, counselors, rehabilitation teachers, certified reading specialists, school psychologists, superintendents and librarians can now certify eligibility for the Talking Books service.

- Advocacy (Amy Brownlee and Jane Burton) – Amanda brought up a concern about the upcoming School Library standards review. She asked if we need to compose a letter to ask/ensure the library standards are reviewed as scheduled as part of the 5 year cycle. It was decided that Gail would put out some feelers at KSDE and see if she can get any information back. If not, KASL will proceed with writing a letter. It was mentioned that Kristy Oberny, KNEA, and Mirah Dow may be able to help us make contact.

**New Business:**

- KLAEF School Rep? – Is this a position we need to fill? The KLA educational foundation does give out a lot of money to our members and we may need representation. Gail and Martha will look to see if this could be in conjunction with the KLA representative position that are looking into adding.

**Executive Council:**

- WAW KASL delegate – There were 4 applications reviewed. Nichole Brocow was selected for the next 3 year term.

Next KASL Council Meeting: Jan. 8, 2022
Spring Council Meeting: April 9, 2022
Adjournment – Alice motioned to adjourn the meeting, Shyla seconded. Motion passed. Meeting Adjourned 11:00 am.