

OAXACA LENDING LIBRARY, A.C.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APRIL 11, 2024

Call to Order and Roll Call

Gail called the meeting to order at 11:00.

Board members attending: Gail Ament, Mary Phillips, David Shallenberger, Doug Long, Jose Luis Zarate, Peter McCallion, Marirose Lescher, Viviana Ruiz, Carol Ringold

Board members absent:

Staff: Adriana Maldondo

Visitors: Dottie Bellinger, Ralph Gault, Ian Hawley

Approval: Agenda

Peter McCallion moved to approve the agenda; David Shallenberger seconded; motion passed unanimously

Approval: February 2024 Minutes

Marirose moved to approve the minutes; David Shallenberger seconded; motion passed unanimously

Announcements

President's Report: Gail acknowledged the work of the Outreach Committee (Comité de Vinculación y Divulgación in Spanish) in making contact with Dr. Agustín Vidal, head of the city's Department of the Environment and Climate Change. Dr. Vidal has agreed to present two Events this summer on Water Scarcity and Garbage and also to advise us on sustainability, including a water-catchment system for the terrace.

Gail will be offering to meet with the individual committees if they wish, to encourage open communication and inquire about the challenges they face and the resources required to meet those challenges. She welcomed Dottie Bellinger and Ian Hawley, who had requested to be placed on the agenda.

Treasurer's Report

Marirose reported that in January we did way better than was expected. In February and March there were losses. In the OLLF we have \$4,000 additional dollars. One of our contributions was placed in the incorrect fund. That was corrected later. We have \$36,000 in the foundation.

Peter McCallion moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; David Shallenberger seconded; motion passed unanimously.

DA status: the lawyer is working on getting a letter from the Ministry of Culture in Oaxaca that says that the library carries out cultural activities. With that our application is complete. That should move quickly. Jose Luis noted that the government moves slowly. In contrast, the paperwork doesn't take much time. With SAT and other entities involved we never know how long it will take.

Ralph Gault said a few words about the endowment. Further work on that has stopped for the time being because we're waiting on having DA.

Marirose brought up the idea of "active agent" committees which can spend money without going to the BOD for permission. At the next BOD meeting the finance committee will have suggestions for which committees could be active agents.

During a discussion about buying books through the OLLF, Viviana suggested that we could buy books through the OLLF and have a factura.

Old Business

Nomination of Vice-president

Marirose nominated Carol Ringold for VP. David Shallenberger seconded. Motion passed with one abstention. The empty vice president position will be advertised.

Summer Hours

Ian Hawley was present to suggest summer hours at the library. Very few people are in the library after six pm. Ian suggested that it could be a safety issue for Cony. Ian is proposing April 15th to September 15th for summer

hours. Putting a notice at the desk which would advise patrons of different hours was suggested.

David Shallenberger moved that we accept April 15 - September 15 Peter McCallion suggested that hours be posted and amended to May 1 - September 15. Marirose seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Protocol for medical emergencies.

Mary Phillips has been contacted by one person with a suggestion. Terry Banen was suggested as someone who should be contacted. David Shallenberger will see Terry. Mary will talk with Cony who has been responsive to two incidents that have occurred in the library.

Signage regarding pets and civility

Dogs: Well-behaved and leashed dogs are welcome at the library.

In order to create and maintain a positive social and intellectual atmosphere within the OLL and at its various events, the Board of Directors has established a code of behavior and a guideline for civility.

Code of Behavior

- While it is understood that disagreements will occasionally occur, those who access the library and attend its events should be free from incivility or harassment; as well as from insulting, disrespectful, or humiliating language/actions; and
- The OLL staff, its board of directors, volunteers, and patrons who witness behavior that does not comply with the OLL Statement on Civility, will respectfully ask violators to continue their conversation outside of the library or library event.

Behavioral Guidelines for Civility

- Speak in a respectful and civil manner, i.e., with attention to volume, tone, and word choice that is free from vulgarity, bigotry, hostility, oppression, and hatred; and
- Respect the privacy of others, i.e., avoid malicious gossip or violation of privacy such as publicly sharing others' health or financial issues.

Major fundraising events

Gail suggested that if we do a fundraising project and/or projects we may need to have someone in charge. Carol is interested in revitalizing the

fund raising committee. David Shallenberger raised the question about coordinating with other entities which are fund raising in order to not “step on each others’ toes.”

Libros para pueblos + OLL

We are not complying with LpP regulations. It’s time to retain our status. One of the things we do not have is a dedicated leader. This is a requirement meant to guide the kids in reading. LpP’s mission is to promote reading. Workshops must be attended by the people who are responsible for following regulations. Jose Luis made a plea for both organizations to work together. Peter McCallion will be taking advantage of attending the yearly LpP convention.

New Business

Dottie Bellinger was present for the BOD meeting to present information about the hikes and tour groups.

She shared recommendations the group would like to implement.

1. Two members of the board serve on the Excursions Committee.
2. The committee is in need of a volunteer coordinator and she requested approval to hire that person for the high season.

David Shallenberger moved to provide 25,000 pesos for paying a coordinator. Peter McCallion seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Cash Register accountability

The Finance Committee will come up with a policy to present to the board.

Volunteer(s) of the Month

Dottie said that her committee was looking at naming a Volunteer of the Month, as well.

Adjournment

Peter moved to adjourn the meeting; Marirose seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:50

