

**OLL Board of Directors Meeting
October 2022**

Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 11:05

BOD members present: Dottie Bellinger, Doug Long, Mary Phillips, David Myler, David Shallenberger, John Burch, Peter McCallion, Abraham Torres, Jose Luis Zarate, Phil Schlak, Jacki Gordon, Lina Negrete, Marirose Lescher

Visitors: Larry Ginzkey, Doug Harmon

Approval Agenda

John Burch moved to approve the agenda; Peter McCallion seconded.
The motion passed unanimously.

Approval September Minutes

Dottie moved to approve the Sept. minutes; David seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

Jackie suggested we should be prepared for lots of people coming back to Oaxaca. At the recent book presentation there were 20 or more people.

Dottie mentioned that Gail Schachter and Tanya La Pierre are forming a committee of 2 to work with facilities committee on the bulletin board issue.

Marirose suggested that we put an announcement in the eblast that we're working on getting bulletin boards placed around the library.

President's Report

Jacki reported that the library event at San Pablo was sponsored by RUIO. John Burch, Jose Luis, Fay Henderson and Jacki will be going. Jose Luis visited with a member of the group putting on the event. This group has archives, etc. that include the history of Mexico. They did not have the space for us to participate but in November there is another meeting. We can decide if we want to be part of this network. Jacki mentioned that this could be part of the outreach for the library.

Treasurer's Report

Marirose stated that we had a small income. We lost far less than expected. Ticket sales for Day of the Dead and lectures are helping. We took two grants from the OLLF. We're moving into the tourist season and our financial state will look a lot better. We're in good shape.

Old Business

OLLF/OLL relationship

Doug Harmon was present to shed light on the OLLF and OLL relationship. Doug has been on the OLLF board as treasurer since 2009, 2010.

Doug reported that The OLL and OLLF are two different organizations not really related except that the OLL is a grantee of the OLLF. The OLLF was created in 2003. Doug remarked that most of his work has been telling people that the OLL and the OLLF are not the same. The OLL is a Mexican A.C. and the OLLF is a US nonprofit. Even though they recently discovered that the OLLF was created with the idea of really supporting one organization, the OLL, that is not what happened. The OLLF has

many more grantees and more organizations that they are supporting. Some are Libros Para Pueblos, Camarada Oaxaca, The Learning Center.

He went on to explain how the OLLF has been using Covid money for donations to help people. Canica and YoYo are two organizations which they have been helping. Activity with the OLL has been minimal. When this relationship first started the operation was very small. The OLLF's first dealing with other organizations was with Libros para Pueblos.

Doug ended with that overview and then asked if there were any questions.

Marirose spoke about a problem with the amount of money we raised during the Ensuring our Future campaign. It's about 50,000 US. Technically that money is not the OLL's money. It's the OLLF's money. Technically that money could be given to any organization the OLLF supports. She asked if those funds are segregated from the OLLF, or not? Could they be used by the OLL?

Doug's answer was "yes" and he went on to explain how their accounting system separates grantees and amounts.

Doug added that it's the OLLF's responsibility to make sure the money is being used properly. If a donation has been made to a certain organization and it becomes known that that organization is not using the funds as intended, the OLLF can go back to the donors and ask if they'd rather have their funds used differently. That situation has never come up but that's the way it would be handled if it did.

Dottie continued explaining that the OLL ran into some problems during the Ensuring our Future campaign. For example, when donations were made some wouldn't have an assigned organization. Because of that they were sent to the OLLF.

Dottie added that she assumes that OLLF takes some of the money that comes in for running their organization. Doug explained the way they use

that money. They now have staff which gets paid. Up until a year ago they OLLF had no staff and few taxes to pay. Because there is a staff to pay and taxes to pay it is necessary for the OLLF to assess each one of our grantees for the transactions.

Dottie continued explaining that the OLL ran into some problems during the Ensuring our Future campaign. For example, when donations were made some wouldn't have an assigned organization. Because of that they were sent to the OLLF.

Probably during this coming year the OLL will be assessed for most of the accountant fees because they had many small transactions/donations during Ensuring our Future. That will probably change in ensuing years. Dottie expressed a concern about money being sent to the OLLF when it should have been coming to the OLL. There seems to be confusion because the names are almost the same.

Jacki questioned whether the OLLF could do a boxed spotlight on the website and in the eblast explaining the procedure of how donors can be sure to get their donation to the right organization.

Doug Harmon will meet with the bookkeeper to solve some of these cases.

Phil suggested that we take a look at the info on the website and make sure it reflects the proper procedures for donating.

Facilities update

To help solve bulletin board controversy, the facilities committee has identified a couple of places on the lower level where we could place some cork boards. One would be back by the café. Another recommended space is behind the circulation desk. Discussion ensued about the effectiveness of these proposals. Doug Long showed a mockup of a kiosk located on a computer. The plan is to supply 2 kiosks.

Jacki suggested that the facilities and book committees and tech committees get together. We do want a compromise.

Dottie moved that we use 40,000 pesos to get started. David seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Facilities Committee announced they will use 28,000 pesos for the new staircase which will replace the spiral staircase. After some back and forth with the owner, the staircase is a "go."

Two sizable donations have come in recently. A plaque was suggested to show our appreciation.

Excursions: Hoofing It and Out and About

Larry Ginzkey reported that the programs are in good shape. Cemetery tours, hiking programs, out and about, all have volunteers and patrons to help things run smoothly.

Phil Schlack suggested that we need to start training for Larry's position. He's stepping down. His expertise will be missed.

An announcement on the website and in the eblast will be added to get people aware that the hikes and tours sell out fast.

Legal and Constitution/Bylaws

The Executive committee has worked 7 hours on the constitution. Jacki and Mary will meet with Adrianna and Isabelle to try to work out some concerns.

Marirose explained the procedure for changing the constitution and presenting that at the AGAM. First the board determines what the changes should be. Then it goes to the notario. The notario prepares draft minutes for the AGAM. Then it goes to AGAM. AGAM votes. Then the vote is certified and the constitution will change.

Bazaar

There have been questions from patrons about whether we are having a bazaar. There is a handbook written by Margie Barkley which will be used by those organizing the bazaar. Phil volunteered that Enaje is willing to take on the work of the bazaar. It was agreed that she could set the date.

We were reminded that we usually have the entrance space for sales so there is a need to inform the owners of hotel.

Childrens' programming

Enaje Schlak is working on this with another volunteer.

New Business

Budget requests: Committees

Marirose said that last year a form was given to each committee to purpose a budget. Only 3 committees sent one. Jacki suggested that a board member sit with committees to ensure that budget requests come in.

Other? – 5 min

Committee Reports – 25 min Book; Educational Events; Outreach; Communications; Technology; Finance; Excursions; Fundraising

Jacki explained how the “Writing Through” class is working out.

Committee members who were present for the meeting mentioned some things that were not in their written reports.

The board discussed the mask policy and the decision is that it will remain in place.

Peter moved to adjourn. Dottie seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:02.