

**OAXACA LENDING LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 19, 2025**

Comprehensive Minutes

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at: 11:02 am

Present: Bonny Weil, Gail Ament, Marirose Lescher, Abe Torres, Gordon Ian, Adriana Pérez Maldonado

Present on Zoom: John Hunter, Carol Ringold, Viviana Ruiz Boijseauneau

Absent: José Luis Zárate, Ralph Gault

Problems with audio. Members at the library were unable to hear members present on zoom. **Abe & the tech team will meet at the library before next month to fine-tune the audio.**

GUESTS

None

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

No additions

APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES

Motion to approve by: Abe, seconded by: Ian. None opposed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bonny: brand new laptop. Congrats from Gail! Bonny is engaged in mastering the new Latin America keyboard!

Art Classes: David Stall will be holding a 5-class series of comic-book art classes for adolescents 12 to 17yrs starting the end of July. The cost is \$400 mxn and includes \$20 mxn to the library.

Book Club: The new Bookworms book club, (formerly OLL Book Circle) will be meeting next Wednesday at 11:00 am. One person attended the May meeting. There may be as many as 6 attending in June.

Creative Writing: Steve Cena has offered a number of creative writing workshops at the library through the international program. This session will focus on poetry. He's

offering the class to English speaking & bilingual adults free of charge on July 11. *(Short break for incredibly large downpour; Hurricane Eric speaks.)

President's Message: Gail's library theme for the next several months will focus on our 60th anniversary and on libraries themselves.

Holiday Picnic: There are 33 people signed up for the 4th of July holiday picnic on WIX.

Volunteers: Steve Custer, who lives close by, had a stroke. He's been a volunteer at OLL since 2001. Jacki Gordon is in hospital in Arizona, being treated for lymphoma till maybe September. We're looking forward to her return.

TREASURER'S REPORT

New Treasurer: Marirose is acting treasurer this month. Ralph will be acting treasurer next month, and until we find a new treasurer to replace the old one. Gail will be the contact person in the interim for purchases. Regarding current efforts to find a new treasurer, consensus is to abide by the current constitution without revision for at least a year, which limits all board members to 2 terms. We can look into revisions after we have the Donataria. Note to all to run the purchases through Gail until we seat a new treasurer.

Budget: We currently have about \$30,000 usd in the foundation. Historically, we have budgeted to take a \$56,000 mx grant from our savings account at OLLF in May. This year, we haven't yet made the transfer. Last year we did very well financially with the July 4th freedom fest event. Marirose proposes we take \$56,000mx from OLLF savings now, skip the July draw, and see if we need funds in August or September. This will be deviating from the budget and she would like board approval for this change.

A Motion to approve using \$56,000 for expenses now: by Abe, seconded by Bonny. None opposed.

Membership Income: The OLL has had more reduced memberships and less individual memberships this year than budgeted for. Reduced memberships will still remain as an option. The board decided this is not a crisis, but it is a concern.

A Motion to approve the monthly treasurer's report: by Bonny, then John, seconded by, Carol. None opposed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Donataria Autorizada: From our lawyer June 12: "It is a pleasure to announce that we have already made the promotion to the SAT of our Authorization as Donataria. Find

attached the documents. Now, we have to wait for the response of the authority. It is taking about two or three months.”

After 2 years, we’re likely in the home stretch. Will we need A.C. to D.A. legal name changes? We’re still an Asociación Civil. **Double check with the lawyer to confirm if we need to make name changes or not.** Donataria status will save us 30% in taxes.

LPP Signage: There are no signs up as yet.

Elections Nominating Committee: The committee needs volunteers. It consists of BJ plus 2 more needed. Mariana Reed might be interested. **Bonny can make an announcement at the next DA meeting.** This committee should start in September. (Board members cannot serve on the committee.)

NEW BUSINESS

“What’s in a street name?”: Liz Renn has published a book on Oaxaca street names. Will the library please purchase copies to loan? Alternately, we could resell the books for profit, maybe in coordination with the 60th anniversary, or at the welcome to Oaxaca Monday meetings.

New Treasurer: Teresa Cokl has resigned. Reasons for her resignation were not discussed. Thanks to Marirose in conjunction with members of the finance committee for the New treasurer position description. Let’s not overwhelm the next person in the position.

A motion was made to approve the board position description for treasurer: by Ian, seconded by Carol. None opposed.

Finance Committee documents: The committee has refreshed its committee job description and are all satisfied with it. Ian would like the board to approve it.

A Motion to approve the finance committee job description: by Carol, seconded by Bonny. None opposed.

1966-2026: OLL 60th Anniversary: We have a month-by-month work plan from Jeff Stewart (OLLF treasurer) beginning now, in June, with a lot of the main fund-raising activities coming up in Jan. and Feb.

Endowment/Fundraising: From a finance perspective, will this be a Mexican endowment or fundraising by the OLL? For a long time, there’s been discussion about establishing an endowment to purchase a building for the OLL. Our five-year lease will be up in two years. The goal for this endowment/fundraiser is to raise \$50,000 usd. That might generate \$2,500/yr. It’s a lot less than the principal fund. We haven’t decided on the purpose of this fundraising. Might include a new building, operating expenses, or both. The rent at our current location is \$30,000 mxn per month. The rental costs have

increased over 100% since 2018. Should we be looking at purchasing rather than going through the stress and rent increases every five years?

We have OLL committees for fundraising and endowment, (a dormant subcommittee w John Birch, Ralph Gault and Marirose Lescher). We have a dormant fundraising committee left over from Covid. **When Jeff Stewart visits us in July we can continue this discussion.**

The board reviewed the 60th-anniversary OLL endowment campaign planning document. **They don't have a chair yet.** There's a lot of structure to this report. Looks great. There will be a teaser announcement at the July 4th gathering. We don't have a date yet for the party.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee liaisons

Terrace Talks: Gail and Carol

Book Committee: Gail as liaison only

Excursions: Bonny

Finance Committee: Ralph, Ian

Outreach: Abe, José Luis, Vivian

Fundraising Committee: John, Carol (?)

Volunteers: Carol

Facilities and Design: Needs a liaison - **John volunteers**

Social: Needs a liaison - **Bonny volunteers**

Tech: Needs a liaison - **Abe volunteers**

OTHER

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by: Bonny, seconded by: Abe. None opposed

The meeting was adjourned at: 12:24 p.m.