

OLA Board Meeting 20 October 2021 Minutes

Present: Theo Dreher, Lara Jansen, Ron Larson, Dan Sobota, Steve Wille, Andrew Schaedel, Toni Pennington, Desiree Tullos, Rich Miller

Absences:

I. Attendance (Lara): 4:08

II. Approval of August Minutes (Lara): 4:10 -Desiree made the motion to approve the minutes and Andy seconded the motion. Unanimous approval with minor edits made.

III. Treasurer's report (Andy): 4:11

- No major updates beside conference registrations rolling in
- Andy will present budget summary at Nov 19 Business Meeting.

IV. Fall conference sessions: Nov 3, Nov 10 (with business meeting), Dec1: 4:10

- Dan, Desiree have gotten consent from most for recordings
- Will share the By-Laws changes online as there is not enough time before Nov 10th, with Toni summarizing recommended changes at Nov 10 meeting

V. Business meeting and board turnover, November 10 (Theo): 4:12

- New board candidates and statements: Tammy Wood & Randy Jones have submitted their goals as board members. Waiting on Lori Campbell's response
 - Tammy and Randy are interested in citizen science initiatives like Lake Watch
- Concept of co-presidency shared by two people (Andy's idea)
 - Andy has seen co-presidents work in another organization he is a part of.
 - Andy suggests it would be a good way to blend skills and share the responsibilities

VI. By-laws modifications, including membership category changes: 4:20

- Committee (Rich, Andy, Theo, Toni & Lara) met and made several edits; now need board approval before member vote
- Requires 30 days notices to members; not enough time before Nov 10th
- Plan to have it on the website for member review and give them 30 days to vote on it after nov 10

- Andy suggests other board members review the OLA work plan and consider including in the by-laws-have others look at it.
- Discussion of proposed changes
 - Change membership categories: Tribes places with Public/NGOs & remove Sustaining but add a new recognition for donors to the general fund such as called Crater/Waldo Lake donors
 - Remove some unnecessary/unclear language
 - Student director addition and has a special one year term limit
 - Converting pronouns to neutral they/them/theirs
 - Vote by members has been made more flexible so it does not just occur at the Annual Meeting such as the by-laws approval
 - Clarification on 'membership' usage to mean forms of membership that include multiple individuals in a single membership like business
 - Clarification that membership will vote on new terms for officers and by-law changes, but not new board members. The board will announce the new board members.
- Theo recommends we make a motion to have board members approve these preliminary changes: Dan made the motion and Desiree seconded. Unanimous approval by the board
- Rich will post the updated By-Laws in the poll on Wild Apricot for the members to vote

VII. Advocacy reports

- Lake Abert (Theo, Trish, Ron): Sent a letter back to Simplot; still have not received any response from Simplot; Will follow up with them; Lake Abert has been very dry this year
- OR-Water Resources Dept had info session this week on Oregon water infrastructure spending plans (~\$0.5B): much of funds are physical water infrastructure, but also some for other issues such as conservation.
 - Ken Helm (D), Jeff Reardan (D) and Mark Owens (R) have been leading the push for more funding to support water issues including conservation.
 - A collaborative Oregon Integrated Water Resources Strategy program groundwater management program in the Malheur/Harney region is currently a trial run for that program, and it has support from local legislator Mark Owens and from TNC, USGS, others -looking at what water usage exists and issues in shortages-place based project; over the next 2 years the project will be studied for best management practices to be applied in other regions in the future.
 - Ron Larson will be publishing a book on Lake Abert & other playa lakes-OLA would like to promote when it gets published

VIII. New business: 5:00

- WALPA is this Wednesday-Friday and online
- Citizen Science meeting next week online by Washington State agencies