



VALL Executive Meeting | October 15, 2024 (Teams)

Attending: Kurtis Kolthammer, Suzanne McBeath, Beth Galbraith, Kate LeBere, Alex Everitt, Chelsea Merkl, Jen Brubacher, Alise Nelson

Regrets: Caroline Nevin, Nancy Li; Erin Clupp

- September 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes - approved
- Reports & New Business
 - **President** – *Kurtis Kolthammer*
 - Salary Survey Committee
 - Alex, Chelsea, Erin, Kurtis
 - First Meeting: October 8, 2024
 - Covered what survey needs to cover (questions, data points, etc.)
 - Using power BI for individual, customizable reports
 - Using Power BI will mean the data needs to be hosted, will be hosted in Kurtis' work account but a back up will be saved in Excel
 - Action Item: Thoughts of asking TALL to be included in the survey?
 - Alex has an informal coffee chat with a contact in Toronto and can ask if they are involved in TALL
 - TALL was involved in salary survey with CALL that was published December 2023; Data collected Feb/March 2023
 - Wanted to have another large city involved in survey data; is Van comparable to TO for salary and living expenses?
 - Alise knows Connie Crosby and can ask her about TALL as well
 - Next meeting: October 29, 2024
 - Hoping for a Jan release of survey
 - **Vice President** – *Nancy Li (Absent)*
 - **Past President** – *Caroline Nevin (Absent)*
 - **Web Editor** — *Jen Brubacher*
 - Auto-emailing blog posts –
 - this was a feature that we used to have with an app called Feedburner, but it is no longer an option; SLAW uses MailChimp but there is a cost associated with that subscription option, but it is also a mass email which many webhosts don't like so the messages get caught in spam filters

- Blog is mostly job postings and event postings,
 - Is there RSS Feed capability? Yes, there is a button on the bottom of the blog page, Jen can add information about RSS feeds for those who want to be updated when blog is updated.
 - Lawbster is where content is being generated, not looking to increase blog or trying to get more blog posts written
 - Website security
 - Has been updated
 - Gallery Photos does not work due to updates, Jen looking for a more current plug in
 - Updated our job posting policy
 - Added some content to the policy, library related roles are welcome
 - Alex mentioned website is still showing old members of Executive, Jen to update
 - Discussed using Lawbster to help promote programs – email initial registration to member list; reminder on Lawbster. Try for next event to see response
-
- **Membership** – *Alise Nelson*
 - President (Kurtis): Received list of members who have not renewed membership, not yet emailed those on it.
 - 22 members have not renewed including 5 students, some organizational members have not renewed like TR;
 - 1 new member, from Alberta
 - Members Directory has been updated on the website
 - Alise discussed Lawbster process of adding new members
 - Nate from Courthouse is emailed about adding new members to Lawbster
 - New Members need to complete account set up to then be added to the forums; if they do not set up account, Alise cannot add them to the forums. Looking at better way of managing this process
 - Add line to welcome email about setting up account on Lawbster
 - Will look at going through list of members on Lawbster and remove those who have not renewed membership
-
- **VALL Review** – *Beth Galbraith, Suzanne McBeath*
 - Working on Fall Issue with a theme of Training
 - Have posted on Lawbster looking for contributions to feature article; will also reach out to some people directly, especially for academic library submissions
 - Deadline of November 5, but there is flexibility to extend
-
- **Treasurer** – *Erin Clupp (Absent)*
 - Report provided by email but not discussed

- **Programs** – *Alex Everitt, Kate LeBere, Chelsea Merkl*
 - Coffee Morning Recap
 - Well attended and good feedback
 - Calendar invites; can't set up a calendar invite if it is not a zoom meeting, important so people can save in their calendars; Gmail calendar?
 - Tuesday after a long weekend not ideal date for the event
 - Upcoming Events:
 - Panel on Weeding Library Collections (Print & Digital)
 - Reached out to find speakers from different organizations
 - Courthouse Libraries
 - Asked Fiona at AG Library but gov't employees cannot speak at events during an election
 - Bri from BLG to give a private firm perspective
 - Contacts at an academic library?
 - Beth speaking to law librarian at TRU and can ask
 - Format – ask questions or everyone speaks a bit to their own projects?
 - Event is 1st week of November, need to get speakers finalized and info out to members to register
 - Holiday Networking Event – Beginning of December
 - Sutton Place Hotel – Chateau Belaire available Dec 5
 - Menu is \$95/person as cheapest buffet option
 - VALL subsidized the ticket price last year (ticket was around \$60), price increase to menu this year, too expensive for VALL to subsidize?
 - Other options: Private Dining Experience, priced out Carlino's at Shangri-La Hotel
 - Small Private Room
 - Depending on # of people, \$65 per person, min spend \$2000
 - Charging VALL Members \$60/ticket
 - Some people do not attend due to price
 - December event is also when honored/lifetime members are invited and there can be free meals – added cost to VALL
 - Bentall 5 conference space
 - Cost of room rental is free for those who work in building
 - Cost for high top tables, catering
 - Canapes
 - Will not have the fancy feel of Sutton Place, lack of décor etc. We can bring our own decorations?
 - Could be less formal but provide more time to talk and mingle
 - Beth has a similar room in her building; Kurtis has a large boardroom at his office
 -

Next Meeting: November 19, 2024