TO: ALA Executive Board and Council

RE: Report of the Nominating Committee for the 2018 ALA Election

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:
Information only.

ACTION REQUESTED BY:
Nominating Committee for the 2018 ALA Election:

Michelle Jeske, Chair
Helen Adams
Maurice Coleman
Vicki Coleman
Regina Gong
Beatriz Guevara
Jack Martin, Jr.
Anne Presto
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DRAFT OF MOTION:
N/A

DATE: 10/2/17

Executive Summary:

The Nominating Committee for the 2018 ALA Election completed its charge of securing a slate of highly qualified candidates for ALA President-Elect and at least 50 candidates for ALA Councilor-at-Large for the ALA 2018 election (see Appendix A). All ALA members had the opportunity to be considered. While candidates for ALA President-Elect were identified through the Committee's recruitment efforts, we had an abundant number of ALA members self-nominate for the Councilor-at-Large slots. The Committee found the documents outlining the key traits and attributes that the previous Committee created for each position to be helpful in our work.

Background

The committee commenced work at the 2017 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Atlanta on Saturday, January 21, 2017, and reviewed the process with Stephen Bell, Chair of the previous year's Nominating Committee. JoAnne Kempf, Director, ALA Governance Office, provided a helpful overview of the nomination and election process and distributed a comprehensive manual. JoAnne also set up a private group in ALA Connect as well as several conference calls.

At the Midwinter Meeting, the committee conducted an inventory of the affiliations of each member, and agreed to leverage these networks to seek a broad and diverse pool of candidates. Between us we would be able to reach out to a diverse group of national and state library organizations and interest groups.

Work of the Committee

To maintain the confidentiality of all Committee communications there was a commitment to use the ALA Connect space for the sharing of information between members. It was decided to focus Committee energy on the president-elect slate process first. To begin its work of identifying president-elect nominees, the Committee divided up the names on the potential candidate spreadsheet (individuals previously contacted about nominations), and then systematically contacted each individual.

With assistance from JoAnne Kempf we updated the spreadsheet by asking those called to update us on their interest. This was a valuable exercise that we suggest the Committee complete every other year so as to keep the potential candidate spreadsheet and pool relatively up-to-date. Committee members also identified those national and state librarian associations to which they would re-distribute the call for the nominations announcement.

We also spent time reviewing the attributes for president-elect and counselors. Having this information available in the Committee notes was helpful to Committee members, as well as a suggested script for communicating with potential nominees. This provided a reminder to inform all those contacted about the highly confidential nature of the election process. In addition to reviewing the process for contacting individuals about the nominations, the Committee set up a strategy, using our Connect space, for sharing the names of new individuals who may have been interested.

At subsequent meetings, Committee members shared information about individuals who had been contacted to update the nominations spreadsheet. We also began to review the nomination database to see if there were new nominations.

Prior to the Committee meeting at ALA Annual in Chicago, Committee members continued to identify potential candidates for president-elect and then identify members who would follow up by contacting those individuals. In most cases, potential candidates were honored to be asked but declined to be nominated for various reasons. In addition we had a small number of interested individuals who were undecided and asked for more time. Also during this time we continued to monitor the slow but steadily growing pool of people who self-nominated for the ALA Council election. With assistance from our ALA liaison, JoAnne Kempf, we had regularly updated spreadsheets to track our progress.

When the Committee met at ALA on June 24, 2017 we reviewed our president-elect candidates. The Committee also reviewed the Council candidates and determined that a fair number had started but not yet completed the biographical information form and statement. Committee members divided up those individuals and agreed to follow up with them after the conference. Finally the Committee determined that a reminder announcement would go out to the ALA membership.

Slate for President-Elect and Councilors-at-Large

Members were pleased with the high quality and strong qualifications of the final three president-elect candidates and were challenged to narrow the slate to two. After two rounds of online polling and one

robust phone conversation, the Committee decided to reach out to all three candidates having learned that the bylaws did not prohibit a slate of three. Each candidate requested several days to consider the nomination and ultimately one of the three candidates declined to be slated this year.

Both of the other two individuals accepted the invitation to stand, thus providing the slate. Each was asked to keep this highly confidential until ALA issued its press release announcing the slate. The Chair then passed this information on to JoAnne Kempf so that she could prepare the press release, which was issued September 9, 2017.

After completing the search for President-Elect candidates, the Committee turned its attention to the candidates for Council. We received 62 nominations which exceeded expectations. The Committee decided not to eliminate any candidates. While it is a large number of candidates, we wanted to give everyone a chance and leave it to the membership to decide who would be elected to Council.

An analysis of the 62 Council candidates follows on the next page:

Type of Library	#
Academic Librarians	15
Public Librarians	21
School Librarians	10
Other (special, government, trustees, etc.)	16
Gender	
Male	20
Female	42
Geographic Distribution	
Northeast	13
Southeast	20
Midwest	17
West	12

Candidates came from the following 13 states, including the District of Columbia:

AR – 1	ND - 1
CA – 6	NJ - 4
CO – 2	NV – 1
DC – 3	NY - 6
FL – 4	OH - 4
ID - 1	OK - 1
IL – 1	PA - 1
IN – 2	RI - 2
MD – 3	TN - 1
MI - 1	TX - 2
MO - 2	VA - 7
MT - 1	WA - 2
NC - 1	WI - 2

The Nominating Committee for the 2018 ALA Election wishes to thank President Jim Neal for this opportunity to serve ALA in this capacity. It was a wonderful committee and a great way to network across a diverse cross-section of the association. We would also like to thank JoAnne Kempf for her support, knowledge, response and good humor.

APPENDIX

2017 Slate of Candidates

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Wanda Brown, Director of Library Services at the C.G. O'Kelly Library, Winston-Salem State University, Winston Salem, North Carolina

Peter Hepburn, Head Librarian, College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, California

COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE

Sedley Abercrombie, Lead Library Media Coordinator, Davidson County Schools, Denton, North Carolina

Audrey Barbakoff, Community Engagement and Economic Development Manager, King County Library System, Issaquah, Washington

Cassandra Barnett, Program Advisor for School Libraries, Arkansas Department of Education, Little Rock

Emily Bergman, Adjunct Reference Librarian, Glendale (California) Community College

Walter L. Betts, Systems Librarian, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth

Tom Bober, School Librarian, RM Captain Elementary School, Clayton, Missouri

Susan Broman, Director of Emerging Technologies and Collections, Los Angeles (California) Public Library

Whitney Buccicone, Special Collections Cataloging Librarian, University of Washington, Seattle

Holly L. Camino, Branch Manager, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Middleburg Heights, Ohio

Jeffrey Cannell, Director, Providence (Rhode Island) Community Library

Keturah Cappadonia, Outreach Consultant, Southern Tier Library System, Painted Post, New York

Nan Carmack, Ed. D., Director, Campbell County Public Library System, Rustburg, Virginia

Emily Clasper, System Operations and Training Manager, Suffolk Cooperative Library System, Bellport, New York

Chris Corrigan, Reference Librarian, Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Washington, D.C.

Peter D. Coyl, Director, Montclair (New Jersey) Public Library

Sara Dallas, Director, Southern Adirondack Library System, Saratoga Springs, New York

Catherine Damiani, Head of Reference/Digital Services Librarian, East Providence (Rhode Island) Public Library

Jay Dela Cruz, Assistant Community Library Manager, Queens (New York) Library

Roberto C. Delgadillo, Research Support Services Librarian, Peter J. Shields Library, University of California, Davis

Vicki Morris Emery, Retired School Library Administrator, Fairfax County (Virginia) Public Schools, Burke, Virginia

Ann Dutton Ewbank, Associate Professor, School Library Media, Montana State University, Bozeman

Debra Rhodes Gibson, Library Director, St. Johns County Public Library System, St. Augustine, Florida

Mary L. Glendening, Director, Middletown Free Library, Media, Pennsylvania

Lucia M. Gonzalez, Library Director, City of North Miami (Florida) Public Library

Catherine Hakala-Ausperk, Author, Trainer, Consultant, Libraries Thrive Consulting, Chagrin Falls, Ohio

Carl A. Harvey, II, Assistant Professor, School Librarianship, Longwood University, Farmville, Virginia

Laura Hicks, Media Specialist, Frederick (Maryland) High School

Mary Anne Hodel, Director, CEO, Orange County Library System, Orlando, Florida

Megan Hodge, Teaching and Learning Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia

Jody K. Howard, Adjunct Professor and Library Consultant, Emporia State University SLIM Program, Denver, Colorado

Kathy M. Irwin, Associate Dean of Libraries, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Michigan

Melissa Jacobs, Coordinator of Library Services, New York City Dept. of Education/New York City School Library System

Eldon Ray James, Researcher, Institutional Survey, LLC, Austin, Texas

Susan L. Jennings, Dean of Library Services, Chattanooga State Community College, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Kimberly Johnson, CEO, Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa, Oklahoma

kYmberly Keeton, Solo Academic Librarian, ART_library deco, Jefferson City, Missouri

Rebekah Kilzer, Director, Member Education, OCLC, Dublin, Ohio

Linda A. Kopecky, Head, Research Services, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee

Kayla Kuni, Community Education Librarian, New Port Richey (Florida) Public Library

Mimi Lee, Diversity and Literacy Consultant, New Jersey State Library, Trenton

Dennis J. LeLoup, School Librarian, Avon Intermediate School East, Avon, Indiana

Leo S. Lo, Associate University Librarian, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia

Mike L. Marlin, Director, California State Library, Braille and Talking Book Library, Sacramento

Jamie L. Mason, Director, Rocky River (Ohio) Public Library

Steve Matthews, Librarian (EMER), Foxcroft School, Middleburg, Virginia

Arthur F. Miller, General Reference and Research Services Librarian, Princeton University Library, Princeton, New Jersey

Joe Mocnik, Dean of Libraries, North Dakota State University, Fargo

Virginia B. (Ginny) Moore, Retired Librarian, Prince George's County Memorial Library System, Oxon Hill, Maryland

Toni Negro, Librarian, University of Maryland, Priddy Library, Rockville, Maryland

Robbie Leah Nickel, School Librarian, Sage Elementary School, Spring Creek, Nevada

Michelle Ornat, Assistant Director, Chesapeake (Virginia) Public Library

Leslie Preddy, School Librarian, Perry Township Schools, Indianapolis, Indiana

Jo Rolfe, Library Director, Camarillo (California) Public Library

Joel D. Shoemaker, Library Director, Oakwood (Illinois) Public Library District

Jon D. Solomon, Library Manager, Englewood (Colorado) Public Library

Eric D. Suess, Library Director, Marshall Public Library, Pocatello, Idaho

Tracy Sumler, Outreach Manager, DC Public Library, Washington, DC

Jim Teliha, Director of the Library and Learning Commons, Utica College, Utica, New York

Melody Scagnelli-Townley, Library Media Specialist, Joyce Kilmer School, Mahwah, New Jersey

Erica Ann Watson, Librarian, Art Institute of California, San Francisco

Joan S. Weeks, Head, Near East Section and Turkish Specialist, Library of Congress, African and Middle Eastern Division, Washington, DC

Janice Welburn, Dean of Libraries, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin