



## **REFORMA Oregon Membership Meeting**

Saturday, December 11, 2021, 11am - 1pm

To Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85920715535?pwd=VFB2YVI3V1hmL1YzMU1POEplVWlOQT09>

11:00 - 11:20

- Introductions/Icebreaker
  - Plans for the holidays or a tradition you observe this time of year
- In attendance: Bobbye H, Ross F, Marci RJ, Martin B, Sarah W, Lucy I, Eddie A, Nicole, Montserrat L, Megan P, Alice P

11:20 - 11:30

- Chair's report
  - OLA and ILFC are working on a statement in response to requests for removing materials in school libraries (Marci's update: the statement was released to the board, written by many people. Marci shared that some important points/elements are missing in the statement, most importantly, how important diverse books and representation is for BIPOC community members
  - a discussion on equity in funding
  - PLA will be in Portland, discussion of OLA hosting a social event for OLA members
  - REFORMA OR budget is looking good after the conference
- Approve last meeting minutes: Nicole moved, Martin seconded and unanimous approval of meeting minutes.
- Committee reports
  - Scholarship: no updates, but asking for input on future scholarships to offer. Bobbye suggests offering a scholarship to PLA in 2022. Eddie: mentioned connecting this committee with an interested donor who came forward during the planning of RNC VII.

- Megan Pinder incoming chair of LIBROS for Oregon, polling members about applying for another LSTA grant in 2022 or take a year break. LIBROS attended FIL this year! This year there was good representation from school libraries as well as public libraries. Working on a shared Google Drive for LIBROS, moving files from the REFORMA OR drive.
- Communications: Looking for a new member to work on REFORMA OR blog, Brandace is on family leave (had been helping with Social Media), Bobbye will be sharing the Agenda/Minutes folder with Sarah for posting on the website
- Fundraising Committee: Eddie is hoping to develop this committee when his term as co-chair expires

11:30 - 11:40

- Marci - feedback on new initiative proposal
  - Funding issues linked to systemic racism, discrepancies happen when white leaders make decisions without participation/input/leadership from communities of color.
  - Issues brought up when BIPOC leaders community members are not paid for their time and work, taken advantage of
  - Issues brought up when time and money is not given to equity work (slow, difficult work, solutions aren't reached quickly)
  - Inviting REFORMA OR, the ALA BIPOC Caucuses and other groups
  - Petition in support of library professional of color leading Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Antiracism (EDIA) work will be coming forward in January. Marci asks Reformistas to sign the petition and forward the petition to colleagues who support EDIA .

11:40 - 12:00

- RNC VII debrief
  - Reformistas stepped up and worked so hard to bring an excellent conference—the best virtual conference attended (many today have that opinion)
  - So much gratitude for Martin and Elizabeth's work in supporting the sessions and getting moderators trained.
  - Huge thanks and recognition for Eddie and the conference committee who adapted this conference from an in-person conference to an excellent virtual conference
  - What sessions stood out to you?
    - Attendees have access to sessions for 6 months, there's the opportunity to go back and rewatch for taking back to our institutions
    - The history of REFORMA (in the gala)
    - The keynotes

- Denver PL's session on taking Spanish services from remedial to equitable
- Is there anything you plan on doing differently at your location based on a session you attended?

12:15 - 12:45

- Member updates - what is happening at your locations?
  - Bobbye: Multnomah County Libraries is going through a lot of changes. Doing virtual programs, not starting in person yet. Cuentos y Canciones has been twice a month, moving to having it once a week. Two teams work on the Spanish language storytime, Bobbye and Lucy work together. Spanish language Facebook has been really helpful in reaching community and have had higher participation due to it. Bienvenidos a la lectura: bags of leveled readers. With funding from Friends of the Library were able to hire an artist to create the logo and ordering kids sized t-shirts to handout.
  - Lucy : MCL been doing outreach but virtual, has started doing presentations in person for smaller groups. New supervisor and new manager—a lot of changes.
  - Eddie: MCL changed timeline for construction of building. Carnegie library building has 5,000 sq ft, the new library will have 42,000 sq ft. For 80 years this neighborhood has been a primarily black neighborhood and has been underserved. Looking at restorative practices—what to do in the interim for services?
  - Nicole: Beaverton hired a new outreach person who is bilingual. Now all 3 outreach staff are bilingual. Offering quite a bit of in person programming, but some is still virtual. Spanish language storytime is staying virtual (has a dedicated group of attendees). Hiring for a Spanish speaking reference assistant person. Starting in person conversation groups and citizenship classes.
  - Marci: McMinnville has fully transitioned. Library is open Tues-Sat 11am to 6pm. Borrowed fire department truck to give home delivery of books, this is a strong pandemic program that they are looking to continue. Served on the hiring committee for the new State Librarian.
  - Ross: State Library of Oregon, hopefully in the spring the new State Librarian will start. May open the building for the public on January 3.
  - Megan: Jackson County PL has been open to variable degrees since the vaccine was available, including doing in-person outreach. Branches are just starting with in person programs like storytimes. Have not done a big event for DIA before, are planning a big event on April 30, 2022. Planning indoors,

outdoors and virtual parts so that they can do something regardless of the pandemic situation. Hoping that there could be something really fun for the kids.

- Group talked about the challenges in recruiting, paying adequately and retaining bilingual and BIPOC employees
- Sarah: Eugene Public Library reopened Teen Space downtown and offering in person drop in activities, in person storytimes in spaces that are large enough for spacing out, just opened first in person adult program spaced out. Hiring as well. Approached by a community member to do an adult-focused event for el dia del libro which takes place before DIA for children.
- Kristen: Springfield Public Library has been open to varying degrees all year with in-person services at the library. Mostly virtual programming, bringing back some programs in person. Spanish language bilingual storytime used to be once every three weeks, now every storytime is bilingual. Been doing a lot of outreach. Will have a new full-time position open soon.

12:45 - 1:00

- Upcoming meetings
  - Stay virtual for February 26, 11-1
  - Spring may be hybrid in person/virtual