MINUTES

In attendance: Monica McAbee (PGCMLS), Arthur LaRue (WCFL), Andrea Boothby Rice (QACL), Kat Jolie (Charles County PL), Kelsey Hughes (PGCMLS), Hannah Rosekrans (BCPL)

- Minutes: approved without edit, motioned by Monica, seconded by Arthur
- Reports
  - Executive Board and Legislative Panel
    - Ongoing discussion regarding formation of Black Caucus of MLA
    - New MLA Executive Director Josh Stone. Ryan will stay on a little while for transition purposes. Josh has previously presented for IFP and has been through LFI, so we are excited to have an intellectual freedom advocate at the helm of MLA!
    - Growing and Diversifying MLA Membership proposal – will go through EB Steering Committee as next step. Andrea will share the proposal document, as well.
    - Andrea was not able to attend Leg Panel but will share updates once she receives the minutes
    - Next SIFNet meeting is next week. Several states have put out statements about increase in bans and challenges.
  - Conference Committee
    - Schedule is being finalized
    - There is a subcommittee tasked with tracking COVID-19 safety measures, protocols, ability to meet in person. Intent is to follow Dorchester County guidelines.
- Old business
  - Conference programs
    - We are hosting two programs and liaising one or two others (we are awaiting confirmation of who is liaising a program about prison libraries).
      - One program is a talk with Dr. Joanne Gavin, but we are still finalizing some details so it may end up being a standalone virtual program as opposed to a conference program.
      - Our two other programs are presented by LFI: one about vendor agreements/privacy, and one about youth privacy.
- New business
  - Google Account
    - Proposal to have a Google, Dropbox, or other similar cloud location for sharing documents to preserve transition between chairs and for collaborative communication
General preference for a shared Google Drive

- Themed Meetings
  - Some other groups have themes like book clubs that discuss before the meeting. Proposal of a similar idea of maybe a theme for the roundtable discussion, or an article or video to discuss. Alternately, could be a discussion at the beginning of the meeting maybe to get some interest in IFP.
  - Lots of support for this idea. General interest in trying 15-30 minutes at the beginning of the meeting.

- Standalone Program: Censorship Panel Update
  - Andrea was contacted by Ashley Teagle about censorship and is interested in being a panel
  - Hannah has some interest from recent LATI grads to have a panel conversation about their experiences on the frontlines dealing with intellectual freedom and hate speech. As a group, we will brainstorm a more specific theme and questions for the panel. Andrea will post a brainstorming document on the Google Drive, and we will aim to have this brainstorming complete by January 6.
  - Interest in having both programs, maybe about a month apart, possibly bracketing the conference.

- Roundtable Discussion
  - ALA Censorship statement – do we want to put on our Facebook page? Yes.
  - Interest in composing our own statement in support of the ALA statement to put before the Executive Board.

Next meeting: February 2nd