

# Minutes of the Lever Press Oversight Committee Meeting

March 27, 2017

Attending: Mike Roy, Kevin Mulroy, Peggy Seiden, Neil McElroy, Andy Ashton, Terri Fishel, Mark Edington, Mark Christel, Bryn Geffert, Charles Watkinson, Rebecca Welzenbach

## Approve Minutes

The oversight committee approved the minutes of the February 27 meeting.

**Action item: Becky Welzenbach will post the final minutes the Lever Press Website.**

Aside: Folks are frustrated with the BlueJeans platform. Would prefer to try Zoom, which many use as the default videoconferencing platform on their campuses.

**Action Item: Becky and Mike will coordinate setting up for next meeting.**

## Summary of face to face meeting in Baltimore

Mike provided a summary of the notes from the face to face meeting in Baltimore. The focus of that discussion was on a long-term vision for Lever Press, primarily addressing the question of what success will look like for Lever in 5-10 years. The outcome of this discussion should be a workplan for the Long-term Sustainability task force to tackle in a series of "sprints," one item at a time.

The group noted that it was very valuable to have Lisa Trivedi at the meeting, and re-emphasized the value in holding a meeting where OC and Ed. Board can meet face to face. The possible dates for such a meeting are Aug. 6-7 or Aug. 20-22. Terri noted that she could do the first of these, but not the second.

Neil noted that the meeting in Baltimore--and the list of ideas/visions/goals it generated was inspirational. In addition to crafting an action plan around it, suggestion to share a polished version of the list as a statement of membership values.

**Action Item: Mike will polish up the notes from the Baltimore discussion to put them into usable/shareable form, and convene the long-term sustainability task force**

**Action Item: Becky will poll the OC and Ed Board to find the most feasible time for this meeting.**

## Reports from Committees/Task Forces

**Executive committee.** Oversight Committee Election--Becky noted that we will still have only four nominated candidates. The OC determined that two of these are not eligible to run: candidates must be in the position to make the decision to commit funds to Lever on behalf of their library. Peg identified three additional people that she spoke to in Baltimore who are willing to stand for election, for a total of 5 eligible candidates for two open spots on the OC. Aim: to open election by April 4.

**Action item: Becky and Mike will coordinate for Mike to follow up with the two ineligible candidates.**

**Action Item: Becky will contact the nominated eligible candidates to confirm their willingness to stand for election.**

**Communications.** Terri reported that the next upcoming event is the webinar on June 7. The topic is the Lever Press peer review guidelines and the proposal to indicate “flavors” of review in each published work. Peggy and Bryn endorsed this idea for the webinar, noting that there was a lot of interest at ACRL.

**Action item: At the upcoming Editorial Board meeting, Becky will identify a member of the editorial board who can co-present at the webinar on June 7.**

**Mike Roy had to leave at 4:30 p.m. and Bryn Geffert, Vice-Chair of the OC, took over the meeting.**

**Conflict of Interest.** The committee discussed outstanding questions and issues on the proposed Conflict of Interest statement. The committee wondered whether the language to identify all “potential” conflicts of interest was too broad. acknowledged that we’re all involved in a great deal of work that could potentially be seen as a conflict of interest with Lever Press work (e.g. staff are all employed by other publishers; OC all have a financial stake in Lever through their libraries; many/most are involved in other OA/publishing/DH initiatives, may be seeking grants from agencies also relevant to Lever etc.). The committee emphasized that they do not want the work of Lever Press or the OC to be bogged down by many folks having to recuse themselves all the time. Mark noted that it’s because of these known overlaps that we want to be broad in identifying potential conflicts. This doesn’t mean that every potential conflict means action needs to be taken. Rather, it’s a way to increase our transparency and to ensure that when there \*is\* a real conflict, that we’re all aware of it. The OC voted unanimously to adopt the conflict of interest statement.

**By-Laws.** Andy introduced the draft by-laws document. He noted that the document contains a good bit of language addressing 5013c incorporation. This may be relevant at some point if

Lever Press decides to incorporate, but for now it has been bracketed off. The rest of the document is closer to reflecting Lever's current status. Charles noted that the by-laws and the governance statement need to be in concordance with the MOU between Michigan, Amherst, and the original Lever Press task force, because this agreement is fixed.

**Action item: All committee members to look over the by-laws document and note questions, comments.**

Meeting adjourned.

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