



# ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING

June 2, 2025  
2 – 3:30 pm CDT  
Zoom

## Attendees

**Council Officers:** President, Troy Reeves; Vice President, Sarah Milligan; First Vice President, Mark Cave; Past President, Kelly Elaine Navies

**Council Members:** Shanna Farrell; Francine D. Sprang-Willis; Abby Perkiss, Anna Sheftel

**Absent:** Nishani Frazier

**Executive Office:** Executive Director, Stephen Sloan; Associate Director, Steven Sielaff; Program Associate, Leslie An

## Notes

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
CALL TO ORDER AT 2:02 PM CDT		
Opening Thoughts by Abby Perkiss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Communities that make up institutions.</li><li>Institutions are at their best when they cultivate the kind of mentorship and support found at last CSS meeting.</li><li>How do we lead with the intention toward change and responsiveness? Do we (communities in general-not OHA, specifically) risk stasis and echochamber?</li><li>Thinking about creating space for new people while also drawing on deep network when discussing nominees.</li><li>"Make new friends while keeping old."</li></ul>	

<b>Consent Agenda</b>	Approval of May 2025 Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Troy, seconded by Mark, and carried at 3:06 pm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Leslie: Post the approved May 2025 minutes on the OHA website</del></li> </ul>
<b>PRESENT BUSINESS</b>		
<b>Advocacy/Strategic Plan Work</b>	<p>Community Support Space (CSS) &amp; Regional Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next CSS meeting set for June 30 at 1 PM CDT (Sielauff, Shanna, Troy).</li> <li>• Kelly Elaine requested Instagram posts for both the CSS and her June 7 Philly meetup. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Prompted discussion on proactive publicity requests and Instagram as a hub for promoting oral history events.</li> <li>◦ Suggested creating a shared document of upcoming events.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• New Orleans meetup (Mark Cave): ~10 attendees; positive discussions on exhibitions, oral history, and the Atlanta meeting.</li> <li>• Meetup feedback: Kelly Elaine found Troy and Sarah's feedback helpful; asked Mark to share his for planning purposes. Troy requested a recap for the next newsletter.</li> <li>• Next CSS: Likely late July or early August. Council has 1 week to express interest in leading; if none, Troy will assign.</li> </ul> <p>OHA Statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kelly Elaine and Anna rescheduled their meeting w/Advocacy due to conflict; letter still pending.</li> <li>• Plan to incorporate feedback from June CSS.</li> <li>• Rob Perks contacted Sloan &amp; Sielauff about whether OHS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Leslie: Email Shanna (<a href="mailto:sfarrell11213@berkeley.edu">sfarrell11213@berkeley.edu</a>) and Kelly Elaine (<a href="mailto:navies9@gmail.com">navies9@gmail.com</a>) improved logo</del></li> </ul>

	issued a statement in support of OHA.	
<b>Executive Office News/Updates</b>	<p>IIRF Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website language updated per Council feedback.</li> <li>Deadline clarified: July 1 at 11:59 PM. Future deadlines should specify time zone.</li> <li>Late applications: Up to committee discretion.</li> </ul> <p>DEFINED Page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Among top 5 most-visited pages. Needs update.</li> <li>Sielauff to create a Google Doc of current content; Council feedback due August.</li> </ul> <p>Newsletter Editor Position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback incorporated into final position description.</li> <li>Tentative title of new publication: Oral History Community Bulletin.</li> <li>Position will be promoted in July. Help share internally and externally.</li> </ul> <p>Re-running 2024 Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Past response rates were low. Council brainstormed engagement tactics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sticky note box, QR codes, small incentives (e.g., gift cards, candy, coupons for The Varsity + Tums).</li> <li>Limited capacity for laptops/tablets.</li> <li>Include survey messaging in program with QR code: "If you registered, you're a member—we want to hear from you."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>Leslie: Build review panel in Memberclicks and give committee instructions on how to use it</del></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership Committee had not reconvene to revise survey; fresh eyes from new committee members may help.</li> <li>• Consensus: distribute survey via QR code in program and at the conference.</li> </ul> <p>Rescheduling September Council Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Monday in September presents conflicts.</li> <li>• Sloan to send LettuceMeet for alternative dates.</li> </ul> <p>Accessibility Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversity Committee will advise on implementation priorities.</li> <li>• Advice expected by end of July, to be reviewed in August meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Additional Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website Analytics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Rachel migrated to Fathom Analytics but discovered WordPress still uses cookies.</li> <li>◦ She will apply her Fathom subscription to OHA, saving \$150/year.</li> <li>◦ \$50/year for automatic alt text remains; alt text and voice remain editable.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Graduate Assistant (Stephanie): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Scanned all newsletters; now working on archival programs.</li> <li>◦ Plan to promote archive access.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Journal Contract (Taylor &amp; Francis):</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ T&amp;F offered 2% more on the royalty. Sloan successfully negotiated \$15,000 to support the editorial team (up from \$10,000), while maintaining 45% royalties. → Expected royalty increase of ~\$5,000/year VS \$1,000 in royalties this year.</li> <li>○ Anticipate revenue from AI deal with T&amp;F. Rights &amp; Permissions royalty income is up about \$6,000 from last year.</li> <li>○ Royalty performance and OHR journal trending upward.</li> <li>○ Troy &amp; Sloan decided to send one editor to attend IOHA, funded from OHR budget.</li> <li>○ Relatedly, editorial team contract renewal conversations underway.</li> </ul>	
<b>General Updates/Discussion</b>  <b>1: Candidates for 1st VP/Council &amp; Nominating/Commission Comms (Troy &amp; Mark)</b>  <b>2: Committee, Caucus &amp; Taskforce Talk</b>  <b>3: 2025 OHA Annual Meeting (Sarah)</b>	<b>Candidates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st VP &amp; Council Candidates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Shanna and Alissa Rae running for VP; four Council candidates confirmed.</li> <li>○ Bios/photos submitted. Announcement in next newsletter and news blast.</li> <li>○ Election to close mid-August.</li> <li>○ Bylaw clarification needed: membership status required at nomination or election? Mark to draft revisions for Sloan &amp; Troy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nominating Committee drafting a list for future leadership</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<p>opportunities; to be shared with Troy for Committee on Committees outreach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Renee Alexander (suggested by Kelly Elaine) was not contacted in time but remains interested. Kelly Elaine to send more suggestions; Troy to verify membership status.</li> <li>○ Troy has 3 candidates per committee; still needs 4 more.</li> <li>○ Avoided outreach to long-lapsed members.</li> <li>○ June 20 newsletter deadline.</li> <li>● Scholarship Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Kelly Elaine to forward Education &amp; Diversity reps. Francine emailed co-chairs and will follow up with Sloan.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Committee, Caucus &amp; Taskforce Talk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Law &amp; Ethics Task Force / Public Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Two webinars planned; speakers confirmed. Awaiting bios/descriptions for promotion.</li> <li>○ Second webinar scheduled. Cost structure established.</li> <li>○ Brainstorming doc created to collect programming ideas from liaisoned committees.</li> <li>○ Discussion on scope of Public Programming Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Should focus on its own programming, not serve others.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Office/Council can support external efforts directly.</li> <li>■ Two anticipated programs this year: education initiative and pre-conference networking.</li> <li>■ Standard honorarium: ~\$200. Can ask speakers for rate to ensure equity.</li> <li>■ Upcoming programming likely virtual.</li> <li>■ Brainstorm doc may help facilitate partnerships between committees.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Education Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reviewing and advising on website content (not rewriting).</li> <li>○ Also researching K-12 oral history curricula.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● History Task Force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Final report proposed creation of OHA Historian role and/or History Committee.</li> <li>○ Committee creation prioritized due to budget implications of formal position.</li> <li>○ Initial charge may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Records management and archival strategy.</li> <li>■ Implementing Midwinter Toolkit.</li> <li>■ Collecting and telling OHA's own story.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Crowdsourcing Annual Meeting content.</li> <li>■ Assigning archival research at UNT</li> <li>■ Oral histories with elder members/leaders.</li> <li>○ Troy and Sloan to review bylaws and next steps.</li> </ul> <p>OH 101 Visioning Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Troy, Shanna, and Sielaff met last month.</li> <li>● Will circulate a one-pager outlining how to conduct asynchronous training at the Annual Meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Annual Meeting Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Schedule: Alissa Rae is finalizing the schedule for Leslie.</li> <li>● Proposals and offsite programming still under review.</li> <li>● Sponsorship outreach has begun; suggestions welcome (especially new exhibitors).</li> <li>● Workshops/tours in development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Shanna &amp; Kelly Elaine offered possible tours..</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Council obligations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tuesday evening dinner.</li> <li>○ Wednesday all-day meeting.</li> <li>○ Possible Saturday meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Meeting logistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hotel rates to be published on Annual Meeting page before official announcement.</li> <li>○ Sarah holds OHA member registration code for AFS but uncertain how to use and prevent misuse.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External trends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Sarah noted membership attrition and in-person conference challenges in other organizations.</li> <li>◦ Sielaff discussed insights from Broadcast Educators Association on virtual/hybrid tools like Sched and avatar-based platforms—relevant with possible applications to OHA networking and mentoring events.</li> <li>◦ International travel/visa issues to be addressed on a case-by-case basis.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>FUTURE BUSINESS</b>		
	<p>Next Council Meeting: 7/7, 2-3 pm CDT on Zoom.</p> <p>Opening thoughts: Francine (substituting for Anna)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Francine: Prepare opening thoughts for next Council Meeting.</del></li> </ul>
<b>ADJOURNMENT AT 3:31 PM CDT</b>		

Minutes prepared by Leslie An