

State Library Commission Meeting Minutes

June 9, 1999

Lewis & Clark Public Library Conference Room

Commissioners Present: Mike Schulz, David Johnson, Mary Doggett, Al Randall, Cheri Bergeron, Rosemary Garvey

Commissioners Absent: Dorothy Laird

Staff: Karen Strege, Darlene Staffeldt, Amanda Broadwater, John Finn, Bob Cooper, Bruce Newell, Suzy Holt

Guests: Debbie Schlesinger, Abe Abramson, Richard Ackeroyd

Introductions and Announcements

Chairperson Mike Schulz called the meeting to order, and thanked Debbie Schlesinger for allowing the Commission to meet in the Lewis and Clark Library.

Schulz welcomed Al Randall as the newest commissioner on the Board.

Darlene Staffeldt introduced two new staff members, Bruce Newell who started on May 10, and Suzanne Reymer who starts July 7. Ted Chase will start working as the new GIS manager on June 28.

Minutes Adoption

David Johnson noted a name change in the minutes.

Cheri Bergeron moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Doggett seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

State Librarian's Report

Strege asked for questions on the report, and summarized the Gates Library announcement, to take place later in the morning.

Strege reported that Lois Fitzpatrick, Mary Doggett, and David Johnson had attended ALA Legislative Day in Washington and talked about a variety of issues. She felt the trip was very productive.

Strege reported that the long range plan was last adopted two years ago, with the recommendation that the plan be updated every year at the June meeting.

Strege reported that in April, the State Library received a \$13,000 payment for E-rate, but had to seek legislative authority to actually spend those funds. That authority was granted, and those funds will appear on the next budget report. The legislature also restored the travel budgets for all state agencies.

Strege introduced Paul Blumenthal, who presented a sketch of a proposed banner to be placed at the front of the library, and answered questions. After discussion, Garvey moved to purchase a banner to hang on the State Library building. Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Strege introduced Richard Ackeroyd, Executive Director of Gates Library Initiative, and noted that he would be taking part in the announcement of the grant to Montana libraries later in the day.

Strege reported that the OCLC/WLN merger is proceeding nicely. Strege attended a meeting in Seattle with OCLC/WLN staff members, and Pacific Northwest State Librarians. Strege felt that the meeting was productive, and that their voices had been heard.

Commissioners discussed the schedule for tending the MLA booth and plans to have one drawing a day for some items.

Strege announced that Darlene Staffeldt has been named as the Sheila Cates Librarian of the Year, and thanked her for all her hard work and dedication. Strege reported that Schiell Anderson has been named as Legislator of the Year, as well, and reminded attendees of Anderson's support for libraries.

Montana Library Network Project

Bruce Newell distributed brief descriptions of the project, and announced that there is now a working home page. He encouraged attendees to visit the site and provide feedback. Bruce noted that these will be distributed to the various communities, and from their comments will be developed a master plan with a five-year strategic direction. The key, Newell noted, is working together.

Library and Information Services Dept. (LISD) Services Review Process

Suzy Holt conducted a presentation on the review process that has been taking place in the State Library, and reviewed the findings and resultant goals.

Advisory Council Reports

LSCA/LSTA Projects Update

Sue Jackson reported that work is continuing in the Dillon library, with completion scheduled in July. Phase 1 of the Internet Connectivity project has been completed, and all participants but the Dillon Library are connected. Phase 2 is still taking place; libraries have not yet expended all their monies. Ekalaka sent a letter saying they had the Internet for six months, and usage grew slowly, mostly used by children. However, many adults are using the Internet for job searches. This project is saving many the travel to and from the nearest job service office.

Bob Cooper reported that the Madison County project has expended less than \$40 of their \$40,000 grant. They are rotating meetings to different towns, and seem to be working very well together, in terms of overcoming adversity and past history issues. They have done a lot of good work, and their meetings are productive, with excellent follow through.

Review of Commission Bylaws and Policies

Strege presented two policies for review, and noted that the commission will be taking action on these policies in August.

Holt and Darlene highlighted the significant changes of the policies, and answered questions and clarified various aspects of the policies.

Gates Library Grant Announcement with Governor Racicot

Schulz, Racicot, and Ackeroyd made the announcement and presentation of the Gates Library Foundation grant to Montana Libraries.

Networking Task Force

Strege reported that the RFP process for purchasing a database license has been completed, with evaluations of seven vendors over a two-day period. The Gale Group was selected as the successful vendor, and a payment schedule has been arranged, and a mailing was sent to all libraries. Of 170 responses so far, only four have declined participation in favor of the money, and three declined

participation totally. Another mailing is planned to solicit more responses, as the deadline is fast approaching.

Strege reported on the replacements on the Networking Task Force, to take the places of Newell and Randall. She noted that the Law Revision Task Force had requested to obtain a member representative of the University System, specifically, Mike Schulz.

Law Revision Task Force

Strege noted some membership changes on the task force and shared the list of issued identified by the task force. The 12-item list contains four priorities, with plans to work on the other eight as the prioritized items are completed. Conceptual drafts of proposed legislation for these items are due to the Governor's office by April 2000.

Standards Administrative Rules

Staffeldt reported that a subcommittee has been developing administrative rules for the standards passed by the Commission. The rules will be submitted for publication in August, with a hearing shortly thereafter.

Commission Goals and Objectives

Schulz reminded members of the list of goals, and encouraged thoughtful perusal of such, and encouraged additions.

Action Items

Trust Guidelines

Johnson moved to adopt the proposed trust guidelines with the editorial changes suggested. Bergeron seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Library Literature Sampler

Strege summarized items contained in the sampler, including a good article on filtering, written by the Billings Gazette.

State Librarian Evaluation Process

Schulz summarized the evaluation process and asked for volunteers. Garvey and Laird will conduct the evaluation and present a report in August.

Other Business

Strege thanked Schulz for introducing the Governor before the Gates grant announcement, and Schulz appreciated the introduction suggestions from Karen.

Meeting Adjourned