

**Montana State Library Commission
Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2001
Helena, MT**

Attendees:

Commissioners David Johnson, Mike Schulz, Linda McCulloch, Rosemary Garvey [teleconferenced into meeting], Al Randall, Dorothy Laird

Absent: Mary Doggett

Guests: Cheri Bergeron, Debbie Schlesinger, Broad Valleys Federation; Brett D. Allen, Lake County LIP Project; Erica Allen, Lake County LIP Project; Bridgett Johnson, South Central Federation; Mike Hamlett, Sagebrush Federation

Staff: Karen Strege, Darlene Staffeldt, Jim Hill, Sue Crispin, Kris Schmitz, Suzy Holt, Bob Cooper, Bruce Newell, Sue Jackson, Sarah McHugh, John Carlson, Tristen Shinnick

Announcements and Introductions

Sue Crispin introduced John Carlson, Zoology Program Manager, for the Montana Natural Heritage program.

Linda McCulloch announced that February was "I love to read month" and that 40 students are coming to rotunda at noon. She and Cheri Bergeron extended an invitation to everyone to attend.

Minutes Adoption

Rosemary Garvey stated that under Goals and Objectives she had reported that she had attended a reception for legislators.

Cheri Bergeron pointed out that Vrooman's name had incorrectly been spelled Broman on page 3. Bergeron, also pointed out that she had not been to a legislative coffee, but rather to a Library Link meeting in Pablo. This needed to be corrected on the bottom of page 5. On page 7 LC065 should be LC0265.

David Johnson stated that he had attended the legislative coffee in Billings. This item needed to be added to page 5 of the December minutes.

Dorothy Laird made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Michael Schulz seconded the motion. Motion was carried unanimously.

State Librarian's Report

Strege reported that Amanda Broadwater had resigned after accepting a job in the private sector. Applications for her position would be received in February. Strege also said the Web Manager position had been reopened and was scheduled to close on March 16, 2001.

Strege said the American Library Association [ALA] National Library Legislative Day events are scheduled for April 30–May 1 in Washington, DC. Mary Doggett and Strege are interested attending. Garvey indicated she might be interested and would let Strege know.

Strege distributed a memorandum containing recommendations on the future of the Library Services Advisory Council and other task forces [memorandum dated February 12, 2001]. The memo is intended to get everyone thinking about the issues. The Commission could act on these recommendations at their April, 2001 meeting. Some discussion followed on the recommendations.

Program One Updates

Staffeldt announced that LISD invited everyone to tour the department after the Commission meeting.

Staffeldt announced that John Finn resigned. The position had been advertised and closes 19th of March.

Staffeldt reported:

1. LDD will have a new Trustees Manual out soon.
2. Montana Talking Book Library is working to put their book collection online.
3. Next week General Services is replacing some MSL carpets. Specifically, carpets will be replaced in the Montana Talking Book Library, in the hall, in the administration area, and around the circulation desk.
4. The State Publications Center Coordinator position has been opened as Don Cornish left in December. Applications are being screened.

Program Seven Updates

Jim Hill reported that the core budget is adequate to carry through this fiscal year. Contract work can carry the program through this fiscal year and into next year. The legislative reception was a success. Hill invited anyone who could not attend the reception to stop in NRIS to see the displays. A position description was prepared for the User Services and Support Section Manager and the position will be advertised.

Hill showed a sample printout from the new NRIS thematic mapper. The mapper will allow interactive access to GIS data over the web, without user needing GIS software. Users can come to the GIS web site and see a list of datasets, then chose which they want applied to a map. If the users have ArcView, they can download the information and use it within that application. Users are also able to display these datasets over topographic maps and aerial photographs.

Strege announced that Duane Anderson will do a presentation at MLA.

LSTA Reports

Projects Update

Sue Jackson reported that the Fiscal Year 2000 annual report had been accepted. The new fiscal year 2001 grant award of \$753,176 represented an increase. Jackson also reported that:

1. Library Improvement Project in Lake County update: the first expenditure was made for \$4600, which covered travel, supplies, printing, etc. for the survey.
2. Montanaiana Project update: the Yellowstone Art Museum hired Nancy Reburg. They will finish their project.
3. Neither MSU-Billings or the University of Montana have expended their grant fund for the Montanaiana projects yet. MSU-Bozeman has completed the Haynes final report. The project was awarded \$3358. This project will cost about \$1,000. Have prepared a timeline for Round 2 of the Montanaiana regrant program which was given to the task force. It has been announced on Wired-MT that grants will be available. There will be a formal pre-application grant meeting and demonstrations of last round of projects at MLA.
4. The 2001 Summer Institute is progressing, the agenda is ready and Tristen created the logo.
5. The 2001 Fall workshop will be moved from Lewistown. Also, because there will be OCLC workshops in September, the workshop may be held at a different time.

Montana Library Network

Bruce Newell reported. He had just returned from Dublin Ohio where he attended the OCLC Users Council. Mike Price was trained on site searching and has a test version of the MSL catalog on the web site. Bruce also reported that:

1. The MLN Gateway site server has ability to give them data on usage, but don't yet know how to make use of the data. They will continue to report the data and will work toward making it more useful.
2. The Western Shared Catalog project is progressing, with a draft RFP almost complete. Al Randall suggested they apply for a Commerce grant.
3. The OCLC contract is being negotiated and prospects are good for the three year contract, with Montana committing to increased payment over the years.
4. For the last two years we have asked Senator Burns for a federal appropriation; this year we have asked for \$4.7 million.
5. OCLC is going international. They will be expanding cataloging participation in libraries around the world.

Some discussion on the increased OCLC cost followed.

Discussion followed on the question of whether Montana is going from having no training for librarians available to a point of too many training opportunities and whether MSL efforts are being coordinated with MLA efforts. Bruce indicated that they have not coordinated with MLA, but will need so.

Bob Cooper reported on the Lake County Library Improvement Project. The project is aimed at demonstrating a countywide approach. They hope to get people to see that a consolidation system will result in better service. Lake County Commissioners have appointed an interim board. Bob introduced Erica Allen, the chair of the volunteer board who spoke about the project. Brett Allen from the St. Ignatius School was also present to support the LIP.

Erica Allen gave an overview of the situation, indicating that the needs of different areas in the county vary greatly. She complimented Bob Cooper on all the work he has done. She felt that the best time to approach the voters would be the 2002 election. Education and momentum are very important factors. They have spent \$4,600 so far. They will spend about \$90,000 in the next year. They have recently completed a survey that showed what people want. They need funding so that librarians can offer more services and libraries can be open more hours. They also need more technology, to do more outreach, establish book drops, and provide education.

Discussion of the project followed.

Federations Report

Debbie Schlesinger, reporting for the Federation Coordinators, presented the Commission with a valentine. Bridgett Johnson was selected to be the federation spokesperson. The Federation Coordinators received updates from Strege and Staffeldt.

LSTA Long Range Plan and Evaluation Process

Strege reported that an evaluation is a requirement of the federal funds and must be done every five years. A request for proposals was issued. The first choice was Himmel & Wilson, who satisfied all of the requirements. A contract will be negotiated. Data collection will be done mostly through focus groups with a survey as a follow-up. The evaluation will be presented to the Commission at their August, 2001 meeting.

Legislative Update

Karen Strege passed out a memorandum on what has happened in the 2001 Legislature.

Commission Goals and Objectives

Mike Schulz reminded the Commission that at the last retreat they had outlined their goals for the year and agreed to report on their progress at each meeting.

Dorothy Laird said she had agreed to promote the Commission's presence. She attended a Legislative coffee December, which was well attended by legislators, community members and librarians. She thought they had succeeded in making Legislators aware of library issues. Laird also attended the January Legislative reception at MSL.

Mike Schulz said he was working on a teacher leadership grant. He reported that two school surveys had been created, one on technology in schools. Schulz stated that MSL had done the yeoman's work on it. Diane Gunderson and Tristen Shinnick are working on compiling the responses.

David Johnson stated that he contacted legislators. He completed an article for the Big Sky Libraries newsletter. He contacts legislators whenever Karen calls to say it is the right time to do so.

Laird reported the progress on the MLA Reception.

Commission bylaws: The bylaws require that the Commission review them at the February meeting. The bylaws were briefly discussed. No action on them was taken.

Action Items

Strege said she did not think that a decision had been made.

Financial Report: Mike Schulz made a motion to approve the second quarter financial report. Dorothy Laird seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

LIP Program Funding for Lake County: Al Randall moved to approve funding for the second year.

Linda McCulloch seconded the motion. A lengthy discussion followed.

The motion passed unanimously.

Al Randall requested that Bob Cooper give them an update on the Madison County LIP. Bob Cooper said he would do so.

Articles and Closing Comments

Strege quickly went through the articles include in the Commission notebooks and announced that the Bozeman Public Library will have a new home in a few years.

Meeting Adjourned