

Montana State Library Commission Final Meeting Minutes for August 15, 2006 Pablo, MT

Attendees:

Commissioners: Don Allen, Cheri Bergeron, Cindy Carrywater, Ron Moody, Bruce Morton and Nora Smith.

Staff:

Bob Cooper, Jim Hill, Kris Schmitz, Darlene Staffeldt and Julie Stewart.

Visitors:

Dan Arnsan, Mineral County Library, Honore Bray, Missoula Public Library, Carlene Engstrom, Salish Kootenai College, Shannon Hollenback, Mineral County Library, Linda Juneau, University of Montana, Gloria Langstaff, Bitterroot Public Library and Marilyn Trospen, Polson Public Library.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Open Time for Persons to Address the Commission

Engstrom discussed a vision she has for troubled college libraries. There are seven reservation tribal colleges and each has a library that is headed by a librarian with a master's in library science. They all have a mission to be the tribal library for the reservation so they serve the community, which means they are the public library for everyone living on the reservation. She asked the Commission to support a change in the statute recognizing the uniqueness of these libraries as public libraries also. She would like the statute to designate the libraries as both academic and public. Juneau has contact with legislators that are interested in changing the statute. At this point it's concept, but Engstrom is asking for support in this change. Funding for tribal libraries is different than public libraries in that they are supported by the college general fund. Change in statutes would make them eligible to apply for grants for public libraries.

Morton stated there's precedence in that we have blended libraries elsewhere in the state, in terms of the public schools and the public libraries and certainly elsewhere in the country.

Moody asked if Carrywater would be able to be the Commission's liaison with Engstrom. Morton said there are some legal issues that need to be worked through in terms of tribal government and the State Library and Commission which is different than the other blended libraries where you're dealing with school boards and library trustee boards.

Staffeldt said a few years ago we did research because the tribal libraries were requesting that we recognize them as tribal libraries and we received legal opinion that they were not established in Montana as public libraries. That doesn't mean that what Engstrom is asking for can't happen, but it would take some legal work. It can be

assigned to a bill drafter, if the legislator wants to submit it for the draft. Staffeldt said she's not sure it's ready for that as it will take longer than just a bill drafter looking at this to work out the tribal law piece and the public libraries statutes. Staffeldt can start looking into this and use Carrywater as a liaison if the Commission wants to do this.

Morton said it's unrealistic in a four month timeframe between now and the legislative session to bring this forward and we may want to use the next two years to prepare and get this right and not rush and have it fail. It might be better to prepare this for the 2009 legislature.

Juneau said she has support of the University of Montana's president office to go forward with the plan and use resources of the University to get this done.

Moody suggested developing an energy source for this in the community, such as library types and citizens. He suggests forming a committee to get it done.

Approval of Minutes

Smith stated that she was in attendance at the June 14, 2006 minutes.

Bergeron moved to accept the minutes of June 14, 2006 with the addition of Nora Smith's name to the minutes as attending. Motion passed unanimously. Allen moved to approve the July 21, 2006 minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

State Librarian Report

Staffeldt reviewed the executive planning process. The proposed budget has been submitted to the Governor's office and MSL has one more chance to meet with the Governor's budget staff on Monday, August 21. Staffeldt will then ask for their support for NRIS and Heritage. Morton suggested that Moody attend the budget meeting on August 21st. He feels the Governor's office needs to have this brought to them from a Commission's perspective. Moody agreed to attend the meeting.

Staffeldt attended Montana Library Board retreat August 2 and 3, 2006. They talked about legislative agenda. They passed our legislative agenda in their May meeting and are in support of what we were putting in our Executive Planning Process. They had discussion about if we don't get this statewide access money, whether they as an association will go directly to the legislature and ask for this. She thinks they are leaning towards half of the statewide information act which would fund the OCLC statewide or the pilot project. Their executive committee is working on a decision about that after Staffeldt reports back after the August 21st meeting. The Association is going to work with the Government Affairs Committee and their Executive Board to decide what they want to do.

Morton asked what Staffeldt's sense of the Governor's office regarding the lack of enthusiasm regarding the permanent public access bill?

Staffeldt thinks the problem there is the involvement of ITSD, Department of Administration. It is considered an information technology issue. We made a pretty strong case and that's why the legislation was brought back into the approval slot. The support of the overall project is tied to the concerns from the Chief Information Officer and his ITSD official.

Staffeldt said David Whittail, Network Consultant from the National Library Service came to Helena. He found the Talking Book Library in good shape and will provide us with a written recommendation within the next month or two. We are sure we will hear about not having the appropriate staffing. MSL staff was disappointed about the digitization 2008 which is a new format for Talking Books, we're only targeted to get 20 machines for all our service group of 3,000 people so we will not be moving into that mode for all clients by the 2008. Morton suggested getting some funding from the trust fund. Staffeldt said we're experimenting with various options for that.

Staffeldt reported on the Summer Institute. We had over 200,000 visitors to the State Library's websites in July 2006. The 2006 National Book festival is coming up and Suzanne Reymer from MSL will be attending and we've asked Caroline Bitz if she could attend.

The State Library has meetings in September for the staff to begin the Phase 2 of the broadband and pay plan. We will be looking at competencies and our long range plan.

Montana Land Information Advisory Council

Staffeldt explained the Montana Land Information Act passed in the last legislative session and it gave the Department of Administration, ITSD and GIS Bureau some responsibility for using some the money for their budget and then giving some out for grants to the state. The GIS Bureau of the Department of Administration and the NRIS of the State Library have struggled as to duties and we worked out a Memorandum of Understanding in 2003 and that runs through 2008. There have been some struggles because we feel Administration is doing some of the duties identified via the MOU. We've been adhering to the Memorandum of Understanding but Administration isn't. The Montana Land Information Advisory Council asked Dick Clark, the Chief Information Officer, to assess the current state of common operating picture for the coordination of distribution of state Geographic Information. Basically that is an assessment of looking at the two programs, NRIS and GIS Bureau to see what the recommendation might be to move forward. He appointed a committee of four. They are to bring a recommendation back to the Montana Land Information Advisory Council on September 7, 2006.

Hill said the Department of Administration became involved in GIS in the mid 1990s. NRIS and the State Library became involved in 1987-88 when they were funded by EPA. ITSD came later to GIS when it filtered through state agencies and becoming an IT issue that needed to have some coordination and how GIS related to all agencies.

Morton said his sense is that the State Library is not going to win this battle. He's curious to know if there is a bill being drafted to reconcile the inconsistencies in statute.

Hill is not aware of any bill addressing this.

Morton said ultimately that is the only resolution. There is statute that obligates this Commission to make sure that the State Library functions as a clearing house. That's not optional to do anything else. ITSD is making it almost impossible for the State Library to meet it's obligation under the law. This is one message I would encourage be taken to the Governor's folks. As a Commission we have this obligation statutorily and it seems that the state agencies that have the ability or obligation to act in a supporting role have to make a good faith effort to do that, putting politics aside. If they want to change the statute to consolidate, so be it. Ultimately the question shouldn't be who is going to provide services, but what needs to be done and what would provide the best environment in GIS for the State of Montana.

Financial Reports

Schmitz presented FY 2006 4th quarter's budget and the FY 2007 operating budget.

Long Range Plan

Staffeldt presented the final draft after the Commission's working session. There have been a couple of editorial changes. Staffeldt said some of the items in the Long Range Plan are tied to the EPP and won't happen if we don't get funding as requested in EPP. The long range plan is visible on MSL's web page and all our budgets people require us to have a long range plans with goals and objectives available for them to look at and see if they tie with our budget requests.

Commission Goals and Objectives

Morton met with the National Library Service Consultant. Morton also had lunch with Lance Clampit from USGS who is a member of the four members GIS Committee. Carrywater visited Ft. Belknap College and discussed funding for their library. Moody attended state democratic convention in Lewistown. He made a motion to include a statement in support of improving funding for public libraries and it passed unanimously.

Action

Allen moved to approve FY 2006 4th quarter budget. Motion passed unanimously. Allen moved to approved FY 2007 operating budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Morton moved to approve the long range plan subject to whatever cosmetic editorial revisions the State Librarian feels are necessary. Motion passed unanimously.

Calendar

Staffeldt mentioned a couple of dates. On September 7 the Montana Land Information Advisory Committee will meet and the subcommittee will be making a recommendation then. The Annual Fall Workshop is September 22 and 23 in Lewistown. The volunteer

appreciation luncheon is September 26. The next Commission meeting is October 11 and that will be in Helena at the State Library. The Bozeman invitation has been extended to December. The last item Staffeldt wanted to make the Commission aware of is the Library Legislative Day which is January 9, 2007. This is on the legislative calendar. We usually have reception from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.. During the day there are workshops and some time to meet with your legislators.

Langstaff mentioned that the Tamarack Federation meetings are scheduled for September 29, 2006 in Polson and April 13, 2007 in Missoula.

Library Correspondence and Literature Sampler

Staffeldt mentioned that correspondence regarding the long range plan and EPP issues is in the Commission packets, with annual reports, and the normal literature samples.

Other Business and Announcements

Staffeldt stated the ILL reimbursement for last fiscal year all loans will be reimbursed at 98 cents per loan and the net lenders will be reimbursed at \$4.71 for net loans. That's what the reimbursement checks will be and they will be going out in the next few weeks.

On behalf of the Commission, Staffeldt thanked Engstrom for having the Commission to Pablo.

Meeting adjourned.