

Montana State Library Commission
Draft Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2007
Helena, MT

Attendees:

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

Staff: Bob Cooper, Sara Groves, Sue Jackson, Darlene Staffeldt, and Julie Stewart.

Visitors: Deborah Johnson, LSTA Evaluator.

Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves on the phone and Darlene introduced MSL staff and Cheri Bergeron meeting in her office.

Teleconference Participation Tips

Staffeldt mentioned that when having a teleconference it is imperative to identify oneself. Also important is to limit side noises. The teleconference is being recorded and it is difficult to pick up all the voices if there are outside noises.

Open Time for Comments

None.

Library Services Technology Act (LSTA)

Allen asked Deborah Johnson to give a summary of the evaluation.

Johnson's summary included but not limited to:

- Report outline was provided by federal government.
- The Montana State Library (MSL) has definitely met the goals as set forth. There is clear evidence of progress.
- The State has done an effective job!
- Continuing education was picked as highlighted program because it was a priority in the state, it has several outcome based evaluation processes included, and it receives a lot of LSTA resources.

Bitz said as she read the evaluation she was proud to be a part of this organization.

Johnson noted two issues brought forth in the evaluation. The first is that school librarians want more training and the second is that there is great distance for Montana librarians to travel to attend training. MSL is doing more and more online training to accommodate this issue.

Cooper said he was happy to see that what he thought was happening was confirmed from the survey responses. It's good to know we're reaching people, though that presents challenges in that we want to continue the good services we are providing to Montana libraries.

Moody stated he had complete confidence in how LSTA funds are being spent by MSL. He would like to see measurement of performance versus need of performance. Johnson commented that it is a penetration of market question and it was looked at but hard to measure. Johnson mentioned that Talking Book Library is a lifeline to its patrons and it is easy to measure how many people are involved. It is difficult however, to measure how many librarians and trustees are missing out on training as those numbers change daily.

Jackson said that more school libraries responded to the survey than other library type.

Morton moved to accept the LSTA Evaluation. Bitz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30.