2015 Analysis of MSL Library Development Programs and Services
May x, 2015

Charge

The Montana State Library is statutorily obligated to give assistance and advice to all tax-supported or public libraries in the state and to all counties, cities, towns, or regions in the state that propose to establish libraries, as to the best means of establishing and improving those libraries; (MCA. 22-1-103).   As the role of libraries changes so too does the work of the State Library to support public libraries. At the same time, both state and federal funding resources to support library development have remained stagnant for many years in the face of increasing costs and demand for support.

Recognizing the impact these forces have on the State Library's ability to effectively support libraries in all forms, the State Library seeks feedback from the library community about the priorities for our work and allocation of resources to do this work most efficiently. The State Librarian charges this task force to:

- Develop a process to evaluate the importance of the programs and services of the State Library that support library development;
- Prioritize those programs and services, keeping in mind the needs of all types of libraries;
- Make recommendations regarding new programs and services if needed;
- Make recommendations regarding how all identified programs and services might be most effectively delivered; and to
- Make recommendations about how these programs and services might best be funded.

A primary purpose of this analysis will be to inform MSL on how the federal Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) and state Coal Severance Tax monies are spent beginning with the FY16 LSTA award and will likely also inform budget requests for the 2017 legislative session.

Appointees

- Commissioner

- NAC representative
- Librarians (retired and currently working in a Montana library)
  - Representing multi-type and sized libraries and including those who are familiar with the history of services and funding as well as new librarians who can share fresh perspectives regarding the kinds of services they would most benefit from through the State Library.
- Trustee
- Legislative Representative
- Governor's Office Representative
- (Who should chair?)

MSL Staff

- Jennie Stapp – State Librarian
- Sarah McHugh – Statewide Library Resources Director

Introductory meeting notes:

1) Introductions
2) Review
   a. History
   b. Relevant statutes
   c. Funding
      i. Sources
      ii. Processes
         1. Federal
         2. State
         3. NAC
         4. Pilots, projects, programs
      iii. Uses
3) Task force Goals
   a. Develop and implement a process that maximizes input from the Montana Library Community and other stakeholders in order to develop prioritized recommendations for the use of available funds to support the mission and statutory obligation of the State Library to support libraries.
4) Guiding Questions
   a. Do the current programs/services directly support the mission of the State Library?
   b. What is the impact of the programs/services for Montana libraries?
   c. As we think about the future of libraries, are there new programs and services that should be considered?
   d. Is the State Library the most appropriate agency to manage these programs/ services?
   e. What resources are necessary to manage these programs/ services effectively?
   f. What funding sources exist to funding these programs/ services?
   g. Are there certain funding sources that make more sense than others to fund these programs/services?
   h. How would the task force prioritize these programs/ services?

5) Process and timeline

a. To be determined by the task force?
　　　　　i. Should involve a survey? Discussion at federation meeting? Focus groups?
　　　b. Draft recommendations should be presented to the State Library Commission at the December 2015 Commission meeting;
　　　c. Final recommendations will be presented to the State Library Commission at the February 2016 Commission meeting.
　6) Next steps

Programs and Services

Consulting	• New Library Director support • Board Development • Consulting regarding library laws, budgeting, strategic planning, etc.
Training & Certification	• Certification Management Program • Training curriculum management • Professional development
Resource Sharing	• OCLC Group Services • Montana Shared Catalog • Courier Program • Statewide Databases • MontanaLibrary2Go
Literacy	• Early Literacy • Adult Literacy • Life Long Learning
Digital Content Management	• Montana Memory Project • MontanaLibrary2Go Local
Technology support	• E-rate consulting • Technology evaluation an planning • Broadband planning
Community Development	• Digital Literacy • Community partnerships
Grant Management	• SWIM • C & C
Other?	•