

Memo

To: Montana State Library Commission

From: Tracy Cook, LDD Director

Date: May 29, 2019

Re: Network Advisory Council Report

The Network Advisory Council discussed the following items at their May meeting. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have:

- MSC new libraries
 - The Council was delighted that we had found a solution to the MSC System Admin understaffing problem. They recommended allocating up to \$25,000 of Coal Severance Tax (CST) funds for adding new libraries to the MSC. They recognized that the Commission would need to take action to re-open the process.
- Economic development funding proposal
 - The Council discussed the idea of contracting with someone with expertise in economic development to assist State Library staff with connecting libraries to the economic development world and analyzing data to reveal themes/trends in this field that libraries can then utilize for services and programs.
 - MSL staff and Council members identified success measures for this proposal. The Council is recommending using up to \$10,000 of Coal Severance Tax funds for this effort.
- Ongoing projects
 - The Council also discussed and heard updates about the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) e-book pilot project and its progress.
 - MSL staff updated the Council on progress on developing programming/resources for libraries who assist those who are experiencing homelessness and for community conversations and civic engagement work.

- LSTA 19 budget work
 - The NAC reviewed and recommended a budget for LSTA 19 that included hiring two interns to create documentation for ASPeN and to assist librarians and board members who have not logged into the program.
- August retreat and updates
 - The Council would like to review what has been accomplished in the last year, the revised Library Development Study Task Force Recommendations, and discuss the civil discourse work. Council members are also interested in training on the growth mindset.
 - Various Council members reported that they are trying to obtain e-resources that benefit the K-12 community.