

THE STATE LIBRARY



Library Council of Washington

Williams Kastner Law Library
Seattle, WA

Thursday, November 4, 2010

LCW PRESENT

Barbara Arnett, Special Libraries
Benita Brown, School Libraries
M. Kate Burton, School Libraries
Eliza Dresang, Ex-Officio, iSchool
Geoff Fitzpatrick, Information Technology
Tim Fuhrman, Academic 2-Year
Lillian Heytvelt, Rural Libraries
Susan Hildreth, Public Libraries Over 100,000

Priscilla Ice, Information and Technology
Rand Simmons, Ex-Officio, Acting State
Librarian, WSL
Chris Skaugset, Public Libraries
Under100,000
Rayette Sterling, Cultural Diversity
Valerie Wonder, Disadvantaged

BY CONFERENCE CALL:

Nancy Bunker, Academic 4-Year
Annanaomi Sams, Special Libraries

SPECIAL GUESTS

Nancy White, Full Circle Associates
Karen Goettling, WSL Staff

WSL PRESENT

Jeff Martin, Acting Program Manager, Library Development
Anne Yarbrough, Grant and Contract Specialist

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Rayette, as Chair, opened the meeting and Barbara welcomed Council to Williams Kastner.

Karen introduced herself and then briefly introduced Nancy White who has been doing the Peer Learning portion of our Renew Washington project. Round table introductions followed.

REVIEW MEETING AGENDA

Jeff added three agenda items to the 1:35 slot.

- LCW letter to Senator Murray
- Possible replacement for Susan Hildreth
- Appointment of LCW liaisons to the SDL advisory committee

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2010 MEETING NOTES

The September 21, 2010 meeting notes were reviewed and two minor corrections were made. Tim moved and Benita seconded that the notes be approved as corrected. The notes were approved.

ACTING STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Rand provided his report as Acting State Librarian:

- **Budget**

The Governor's across all agencies 6.3% cut went into effect October 1, 2010. WSL took cuts other than lay-offs. In total the 6.3% cut to the Washington State Library amounted to approximately \$364,000.

- Most cuts came from salaries from vacated, unfilled positions—two in Reference and one at Coyote Ridge Correctional Center, and the unfilled permanent State Librarian position.
- Unemployment costs from the massive layoffs in February 2010 were less than anticipated so there were some savings there.
- Rand's time on Broadband will be charged to federal funds rather than state funds, giving further savings in state funds.
- Rand asked for volunteer furloughs and the response led to \$17,000 in savings. Rand was very proud of the staff for volunteering so willingly.
- \$52,000 was cut out of operating expenses.
- OSOS decided to have three furlough days in spring for all state-funded employees. Furloughs will be taken on alternate days so that the library will remain open. Non-state-funded employees are encouraged to donate time to those departments already understaffed that will be affected by the furlough, i.e., Public Services. The addition of the mandated furloughs brought the total cut to over \$400,000.

- **Strategic Plan**

Rand has been meeting with managers, supervisors and other leaders in WSL to discuss our preferred future. Karen Goettling has been facilitating the meetings.

With the staff shortage, WSL needs to determine the core programs and make decisions on a preferred future. WSL may also need to seek funding other than state funds such as revenue sources, fees, or soft money (e.g., grants). WSL is the biggest consumer of state funds in OSOS, so when there are cuts to the agency's state funding, WSL receives more cuts than the other divisions receive.

The Digital Collections program was recently added to the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) so we are currently meeting our MOE, but are quickly running out of options.

So far, no services have been eliminated except for Preservation and Access which was eliminated last February. To maintain staffing levels, we might consider hosting an internship through the iSchool, and we are getting ready to do a campaign for volunteers, i.e., digitizing newspapers. With volunteers, however, we would need a Volunteer Coordinator. We could also use a conservator and a grant writer/researcher.

- **Legislative Factsheets**

Rand directed Council to the handout folder for the information that will be provided to the Legislature during his visits to individual Legislators. The factsheets have been reformatted to provide more information such as:

- Return on investment—for every \$1 the state invests in the Washington State Library as part of our MOE, we receive \$1.94 back in federal funding.
 - Our partnership with libraries across the state and with NoaNet resulted in \$138.8 million in federal broadband grants for Washington State.

- WSL was awarded \$1.5 million by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as broadband match and \$515,867 for the Renew Washington project.
- WSL received a \$284,000 grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities for the National Digital Newspaper project.
- WSL programs have received national recognition—WTBBL received the 2009 Network Library of the Year award by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS).
- Programs, such as the Renew Washington project and the Hard Times Resource Guide illustrate how citizens directly benefit from the services and programs received
- We are working to develop new partnerships, such as the Connecting the Dots project with the UW iSchool.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: PEER LEARNING

Karen introduced Nancy White, Peer Learning trainer.

Funded by a Gates grant, Nancy has provided Peer Learning training for the Renew Washington Communications grant participants and WSL staff. As a result of Peer Learning, staff in libraries across the state can share information among themselves online on specific topics of interest in order to incorporate and adapt new strategies as well more efficient/ effective practices, activities and processes into their own library's work.

Nancy provided Council an introductory training session in Peer Learning. Council then broke out into small groups to brainstorm how they could use Peer Learning to reach out and communicate with their constituents in order to better represent them on Council. (see attached session notes)

Council will report back at the next meeting on how they used Peer Learning and if they found it helpful.

RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING MEMBERS

Rand presented certificates of appreciation to Rayette Sterling, Tim Fuhrman, and Chris Skaugset who were rotating off Council and thanked them for their advocacy on behalf of WSL and Washington libraries.

TOUR OF HOST FACILITY

Barbara provided a tour of the Williams Kastner Law Library. Barbara also oversees the smaller libraries in Williams Kastner's Tacoma and Portland offices.

REVIEW OF COUNCIL NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Geoff provided the nominations committee's recommendations for the three vacancies. After discussion, Tim moved and Priscilla seconded that the following be appointed to Council.

- 2-Year Academic Libraries—Joan Weber, Yakima Valley Community College
- Cultural Diversity—Ana Cristina Romero-Figueroa, Walla Walla County Rural Library District
- Public Libraries Under 100,000 Population—Mary Jo Torgeson, Puyallup Public Library

The motion passed unanimously.

Geoff then provided the committee's recommendation of Priscilla for the 2011 Chair. After discussion, Benita moved and Tim seconded that Priscilla be appointed Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

Geoff then provided the committee's recommendation for the 2011 Vice-Chair. After discussion, Chris moved and Kate seconded that Benita be appointed Vice-Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

SUSAN HILDRETH'S NOMINATION AS DIRECTOR OF IMLS

Council was directed to a letter in the handout packet addressed to Senator Patty Murray. This letter was developed after conferring with IMLS staff to ensure that the WSL and its staff would be in compliance with audit and ethical considerations. The letter from Council, to be signed by Rayette, recommended that President Obama's nomination of Susan as IMLS Director be quickly confirmed. Individual LCW members may want send their own personal letter of recommendation as well.

The possibility of Susan's retirement from Council to accept the IMLS directorship and the process used to select her replacement was discussed.

Rand suggested that instead of starting a new recruitment process to fill Susan's position that, if her nomination was approved, Council take the next strongest candidate from the last round in which Susan was selected. This would be a simpler and quicker process that would allow for that position to be filled in time for the next Council meeting in March.

Pat Partovi, Spokane Public Library, was the other very strong candidate when Susan was selected. Chris moved and Geoff seconded that if Susan was confirmed and Pat was willing to serve, that Pat be appointed to fill Susan's remaining term.

Assignment: Jeff will check with Pat to see if she is still interested in the position. (Update: Pat has since been appointed to the position.)

INFORMATION SHARING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- State Database Licensing (SDL) —Will Stuiwenga asked Jeff to have Council discuss appointing LCW liaisons for the SDL Advisory Committee. After discussion, Priscilla moved and Chris seconded that Nancy Bunker and Kate Burton be appointed. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Jeff and Rand reported that WSL received a lot of praise at the WALE/WLMA conference for the services WSL provides. This praise comes to not only WSL staff but also to LCW who provide guidance both in the use of LSTA funding and on the individual projects.
- Jeff asked if a Gathering Ideas (GI) process would be appropriate for 2012. With the budget so tight, do we even want to do a GI?
 - Renew Washington will morph into Broadband
 - Digital Literacy will become a CE piece
 - Supporting Student Success ends after 2011; this will be our first chance for a new project

Kate had an idea on a project to bring information skills into the classroom. Jeff said Martha Shinnars was considering the possibilities of expanding the *What's the Big Idea?* project.

Assignment: Jeff will talk to Martha about Kate's idea.

- Valerie asked how Council members might be more involved and helpful. Rand explained how the Council worked in the past and how the focus had changed under Jan Walsh to include the development of libraries, not just the use of LSTA. Discussion followed and will be continued later.
- Eliza reported that the iSchool is looking at a redo of the masters program in library information. LCW might want to discuss this and provide input.

2011 MEETING DATES

Anne led Council in a discussion of dates and locations for the 2011 meetings. The first meeting will be at WSL in Olympia. The other locations are to be determined.

Assignment: Anne will survey Council, including the new members, via doodle for appropriate dates and will look into different options.

WRAP UP

Items for future agendas were suggested:

- In May, Priscilla will report on WLA
- iSchool's master program
- Report from correctional and institutional libraries on how they serve their unique population
- Report from WTBBL

Tim moved and Chris seconded that the meeting be adjourned; the meeting was adjourned.

The March meeting will be at WSL, date still to be determined.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Report on the use of Peer Learning
- Suggestions of soft money opportunities
- 5-year plan & 5-year evaluation
- Susan's confirmation

Respectfully submitted by Anne Yarbrough