

THE STATE LIBRARY



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

Library Council of Washington

August 25, 2009

Fort Vancouver High School

5700 E 18th Street

Vancouver, Washington 98661-6898

LCW PRESENT

Barbara Arnett, Special Libraries
Benita Brown, School Libraries
Nancy Bunker, Academic 4-Year
M. Kate Burton, School Libraries
Geoff Fitzpatrick, Information Technology
Tim Fuhrman, Academic 2-Year

Priscilla Ice, Information and Technology
Rayette Sterling, Cultural Diversity
Jan Walsh, Ex-Officio, State Librarian, WSL
Valerie Wonder, Disadvantaged
Bruce Ziegman, Public Libraries Over 100,000

WSL PRESENT

Rand Simmons, Library Development
Program Manager
Jeff Martin, LSTA Administrator
Anne Yarbrough, Grant and Contract Specialist

SPECIAL GUESTS

Jeff Snell, Principal, Fort Vancouver High
School

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Rayette Sterling, Co-Chair, opened the meeting. Kate Burton welcomed Council to her school library and noted that her principal would stop by to welcome them sometime later in the morning.

APPROVAL MAY 19, 2009 MEETING NOTES

The May 19, 2009 meeting notes were reviewed and one minor correction was made. Tim moved and Nancy seconded that the notes be approved as amended.

REVIEW MEETING AGENDA

The meeting agenda was reviewed. There were no changes or additions to the agenda other than the principal's visit.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Jan gave her report to Council:

- Staff is working hard on many pressing issues.
- Budget issues continue: the swap between state and federal money needs to be adjusted. She's also very concerned about next year; the next revenue forecast is in November.
- The Heritage Center is moving forward with a smaller building plan and possibly a different location. Architects are currently looking at three new proposed sites.

- The hottest topic at the library is Broadband Stimulus funds. Jan is spending about 75% of her time on Broadband. The Governor's Broadband Advisory Council, of which Jan is a member, has completed its work and made recommendations to the governor on the priorities for the state.
- Jan forwarded a message to the Public Libraries Directors from Ron Johnson of the UW stating that the application from K-20 and NoaNet is moving forward and includes libraries. There will be multiple wavelengths, side by side: K-20; Healthnet; Librarynet; and Freenet. Jan has advised libraries to immediately sign on to this statewide application which she suspects will be the Governor's priority, but to also sign onto as many local and regional applications as they like. (Although a library can only receive one award, they can participate in multiple applications.) Ecliptixnet has also submitted an application covering a number of counties in eastern Washington.

WELCOME FROM FORT VANCOUVER HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Jeff Snell, Principal, stopped by to welcome Council and talked about the students, the school, and the library. The student population is very transient; the percentage participating in the free and reduced lunch program is 70%; and over 30 languages are spoken. In spite of these challenges, the writing scores are above 80% and reading scores are 75%; the library plays a part in that success.

MORE ON BROADBAND

- Rand passed around a copy of the final report of the Governor's Broadband Advisory Council.
- Rand and Jan gave a big thanks to Priscilla, Chris, Tim, and Geoff for being a part of the WSL Broadband TaskForce.
- Rand said that he and Martha Shinners met with OSPI and talked about Broadband for K-12 and got the impression that OSPI wasn't planning to pursue anything.
- Jan announced that we have been contacted by a major foundation that was impressed with what we were doing with the Hard Times project and asked us to apply for a grant with them. They offered to provide additional funds to: 1) increase the number of HT applications that could be awarded; 2) provide marketing for those projects; and 3) provide peer-to-peer training for the staff and the sub-grantees.

While talking with this major foundation, Jan also approached them with the fact that we really need a consultant for Broadband and desperately need a 20% Broadband match. She doesn't know where that conversation will lead.

Jan pointed out that it was a real pat on the back to the Library Development staff that the foundation approached us. Bruce suggested that a PR piece be sent out to the libraries.

- Jan is now on the Statewide Broadband Alliance committee along with University of Washington, Department of Information Services (DIS), and Betty Buckley. They meet by conference call every other week.
- Some of the Broadband requirements for Round 1 were not library friendly and the burden of applying was steep. Jan hopes the next round will be easier.

REVIEW OF 2010 DRAFT WORKPLAN FOR THE USE OF LSTA FUNDING

Jeff provided an overview of the revised 2010 workplan and budget. Continuing projects total \$3,551,515; there are no new projects. There is a possibility there will be a small increase in funding for 2010; we will have to wait to see what Congress authorizes.

Rand and Jeff explained the federal funding schedule for the benefit of new Council members. The 2010 funds are expected to arrive sometime in the spring.

Some highlights of the workplan and budget:

- **Connecting the Dots**
 - Council previously gave this a strong endorsement, but with all that has happened this summer, the project hasn't got off the ground yet. It should begin shortly.
- **Continuing Education (CE)**
 - Applications have dropped dramatically after the new IMLS guidance was issued.
 - Match has been temporarily reduced from 50% to 25% during the economic downturn; this has increased the number of applications received.
 - Doing more face-to-face trainings. The CE and training budgets remain the same in total, just different styles.
 - With the reauthorization of LSTA (this year or next) CE may open up on what trainings can be funded.
- **Information Technology Continuing Education (IT CE)**
 - Gary Bortel is looking into providing specific courses in addition to those offered by the two contracted vendors.
 - Hiring of the IT support person is back on again.
- **K-20**
 - Qwest Settlement Funds are no longer available; federal funds will be used to "backfill" while transitioning these libraries to the pricing model used by the others on the network.
- **Off the Page: Downloadable Audiobooks**
 - Currently reviewing proposals received from RFP; next step is to negotiate an agreement with the selected vendor.
- **Staff Operations—Special Populations**
 - After Carolyn Petersen worked on the Streams Conference planning committee (a Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums national conference), she was approached by two Washington tribes to help put together a statewide tribal association.
 - Carolyn is working with small libraries including the Lincoln County school and public libraries.
- **Supporting Student Success**
 - SSS continues for 3rd year with 2 grant cycles; one competitive grant, and one criteria-based small project grant.
 - The grade levels listed in the workplan were incorrect; Jeff will make a correction to include all grade levels.
- **Targeted Competitive—Hard Times**
 - There will be another grant cycle; however, it doesn't look like the major foundation will participate a second year

- **Washington Rural Heritage (WRH)**
 - Moving forward; another 5-6 libraries to be included.
- **WTBBL**
 - The first shipment of the digital talking book machines have arrived.
 - Jan testified at the Seattle City Council and they voted 9-0 to give 2 floors to WTBBL.
- **Youth Services**
 - Developing Vietnamese translation of the Read to Your Baby booklets.

In addition, Jeff noted that there may be an RFP next year for the planning and preparation of the next 5-year plan and LSTA evaluation.

UPDATE ON LIBRARIES IN HARD TIMES AND FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDING

Rand provided an update on Libraries in Hard Times and Broadband stimulus funding:

- Ahniwa Ferrari and Kirsten Furhl have submitted the Washington Resource Portal to OSOS website staff and it should be up soon. Rand referred Council to the portal information in the agenda packet and passed around a copy of the resources found on that page. Resources are provided in Spanish; Council requested that Russian, Chinese, and Vietnamese languages be added. Rand will talk to Ahniwa and Kirsten about adding additional languages, especially Russian.
- The Hard Times grant cycle received 23 applications; 20 were approved by the review committee and were ranked by score. With the additional funding from the major foundation, all approved applications could be funded. Since the foundation wants to do a press release at the same time as we do, announcements will be delayed 4 weeks. We should know in about 2 weeks if we will receive the grant.

Foundation funds would also provide:

- A half-time Hard Times project manager
- Marketing grants and the assistance of a marketing firm hired by the Foundation to help the Hard Times sub-grantees to reach: 1) the community; and 2) the decision makers within the community
- Peer-to-peer learning training; consultants will train WSL staff to facilitate training
- Continuing Education (CE) sponsored “Libraries Helping Job Seekers in Hard Times” BCR online trainings this summer. “Resume Writing” that everyone told us they wanted in an earlier survey, was a flop; we might have been too late in offering that class and it was no longer needed.
- In July, the public libraries were surveyed to find out if they were intending to apply for the Broadband stimulus funds: 15 libraries indicated they would apply with a partner; 9 indicated they were interested in applying; and 6 said they were not going to apply.

TOUR OF HOST FACILITY

Kate provided a tour of her library and of the school.

FORMATION OF COUNCIL NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Rayette asked for volunteers for the nominations committee for the Public Libraries over 100,000, and for the 2010 chair and co-chair positions. Bruce, Valarie, and Priscilla volunteered; Bruce will chair. The vacancy application closing date is September 11.

Jeff thanked Benita, Lillian (not present), and Geoff for agreeing to a second term on Council.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: A PORTRAIT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY

Benita and Kate each gave a presentation on “a day in the life of a school librarian”.

INFORMATION SHARING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jeff reported on this summer’s site visit by Michelle Farrell, Senior Program Officer, IMLS. He and Rand took Michelle to Southeastern Washington for a tour of small rural libraries that have received LSTA funds. She also looked over our LSTA program files, reviewed our process and procedures, and met with OSOS fiscal staff. After her visit, she wrote, in part:

“Your LSTA program is one of the best run programs I have seen. It is well organized and documentation for the sub-grant process appears to be thorough. Good rapport with state financial personnel is essential and you have this critical management component in place.

It was a pleasure to visit a program that is so well run.”

Council was referred to the Information Sharing items in the agenda packet:

- Emerging Leader Final Report to WLA – 2009: Ahniwa Ferrari
- Library Development Summary Report
- IMLS Primary Source Newsletter

Priscilla asked if the BCR has a discount for Internet Librarian. Rand said he would check with Regan Harper and this would be announced in WSL Updates.

Rand reported that we gave up College of DuPage so the funds could be used for state travel since there were no other funds available for that purpose.

Tim moved and Nancy seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Recommendation for 2010 Public Libraries over 100,000 position
- Election of 2010 Officers

The next meeting is November 19 at the Longview Public Library.