

# Library Council of Washington

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May 27, 2015

Vancouver Community Library

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**Present:** Pam Nyberg Kiesner, Chair; Christine Peck, Vice Chair; Jane Blume, Patricia Cutright, Allyson Carlyle, Laura Dushkes, Trish Henry, Marcie Howells, Jim Loter, Valerie McBeth, Lorena O'English, Elizabeth Partridge, Susan Whitford, Rand Simmons, Jeff Martin, and Maura Walsh

**Not attending:** Kyle Cox and Allyson Carlyle

**Guests:** Nancy Tessman, Executive Director of Fort Vancouver Regional Library District and Will Stuvenga, Cooperative Projects Manager, Library Development at Washington State Library

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## Meeting

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Nancy Tessman welcomed the council to Vancouver Community Library. She expressed her concern about the current economic situation that libraries face. Washington needs to recognize the need to better fund libraries. She explained that Fort Vancouver Regional Library District (FVRL) was able to build the Vancouver Community Library after finally passing a bond measure. This branch was opened in 2011. FVRL has been quite innovative. They have a mall library that is enjoying growing success and the Yacolt Library Express branch, formerly a jail, is an enormously popular and successful self-monitored library. She recommended the [YouTube tour](#) made by Sam Wallin.

## State Librarian Report

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Simmons explained that we were waiting for the legislature to finalize the budget. Both senate and house versions contain provisions for funding the state library. He explained that we are going to reorient the library to align more closely with what the secretary of state and legislature Believe we should be. Library 21 is the name chose by Secretary Wyman. We're changing who and how we serve to have a bigger impact. While keeping the same focus and mandates, we will reorientation to think of virtual customer as our primary customer. Historical and territorial collections are primary. Journals and Northwest collections will be weeded. We'll digitize more and more and try to market what we have and do.

We need to develop our individual brand. We need more and broader partnerships – like businesses, nonprofits, and community groups. Is a merger with archives being considered? We don't know if there'll be a merger. We have some overlap with archives, but we collect publications, not records. In fact, our mandate to collect federal publications is sometimes quite burdensome. We are running out of room for them, and they are not easily accessible by many.

They haven't been catalogued until the last decade. That doesn't preclude our responsibility to follow regulations about maintaining the collection, some of which are from very old federal laws, which can be extremely difficult to change. We did receive funding for a new building pre-design that could include archives, the library, and Legacy Washington. We could share a reading room and maybe a reference desk and catalogs.

Simmons noted the recent death of a longtime library advocate, Patience Rogge. Under her planning and networking, libraries across the state became sites to educate the public and government officials on open government law. Ms. Rogge was recognized by the American Library Association for her work in advocating for libraries.

## Conflict of interest

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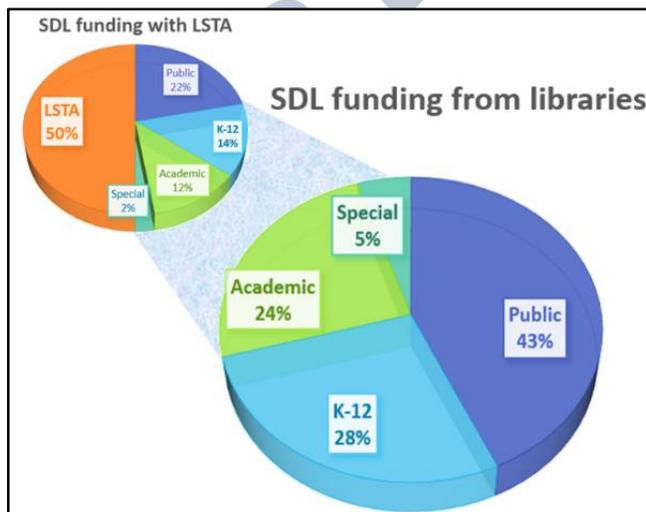
Martin reviewed the conflict of interest policy with the changes recommended by IMLS. Council voted unanimously to incorporate it as a policy.

## Statewide Database Licensing

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Will Stuiwenga presented results of our recent Statewide Database Licensing (SDL) survey and recommendation report. Stuiwenga works with an 11 member advisory committee. They develop and follow a plan that emphasizes the mission of access for all users and supports all types of libraries. Their strategy is to leverage funding in order to provide as much as possible.

The current SDL licensed database package is from ProQuest and every library that participates has access to everything without additional cost. (The six state-funded universities don't participate.) Orbis-Cascade has a new package as well. They use CLP – Cooperative Library Project, which predates the SDL. Our contract is for two years with the possibility of four 1-year extensions. Currently we are nearing the end of the full contract period. The whole package is based on the state's population. *See chart below for a breakdown of payment now.*



Currently the formula for payment is based on the population served. Charging by usage instead seems contrary to the goal of increasing access. We want to maintain an open dialogue with libraries, to regularly provide information, training and resources. We plan to redo the survey periodically and we want to explore the possibility of providing libraries with more choices. We may try a cafeteria style package as well as the one-size-fits-all. Stuiwenga agrees to look into new vendors and choices. We will also be scheduling the ProQuest trainer for additional site visits around the state.

## Tour

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We toured the magnificent Vancouver Community Library with Jennifer Hauan. She then gave us an overview of the [Outside the Lines](#) program, originally an initiative of Colorado State Library, in which Fort Vancouver Regional Library participated. Last year Vancouver hosted 4 different events at a weekend market, a brewery, a laundromat and a wine shop. This year they plan to do a farmer's market, another brewery, Slokam House and an adult Lego program. Last year 440 libraries nationwide participated in the program and there is still time to create a plan for your library. It's all about developing unique outreach methods (and having fun!).

## LCW Orientation

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We shared information about the mission and goals of the council and some practical tips for managing the logistics of attending our meetings.

## Info sharing

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- Martin shared WSL's experiences at the Association of Washington Cities on May 24-25. The event was held in Wenatchee and the focus was on employment. Various libraries sent staff and Archives shared our booth.
- Dushkes suggested that libraries consider taking advantage of getting a iSchool student for special projects. A library can post at the [school's website](#) to offer real world experience for capstone projects. The students are not interns, but more like independent (but unpaid) contractors. Students pick in January, so this is a great time to start planning.
- If there are items you would like to see on the agenda for an upcoming meeting, please let us know.

## Dates were set for our upcoming meetings:

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September 10<sup>th</sup> at Brooks Library at Central Washington University

November 23<sup>rd</sup> at Washington Talking Book and Braille Library, Seattle