



Library Council of Washington

November 15, 2006

Washington State Library
Room 221

LCW PRESENT

Allyson Carlyle, Ex-Officio, iSchool
Eve Datisman, School Libraries
Tim Fuhrman, Academic 2-Year
Sherry Ann Hokanson, Special Libraries
Lisa A. Oberg, Special Libraries
Elizabeth Knight, Academic 4-Year
Lethene Parks, Rural Libraries

Deborah L. Reck, Disadvantaged
Chris Skaugset, Public Libraries Under 100,000
Rayette Sterling, Cultural Diversity
Kevin Stevens, Information and Technology
Jan Walsh, Ex-Officio, State Librarian, WSL
Bruce Ziegman, Public Libraries Over 100,000

WSL PRESENT

Rand Simmons, Library Development
Program Manager
Jeff Martin, LSTA Administrator
Anne Yarbrough, Secretary Administrative

SPECIAL GUESTS

Saul Amdurksy, Consensus

Welcome

Eve Datisman, Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Approval of September 14, 2006 Meeting Notes

The September 14 meeting notes were approved with one minor change.

Review Meeting Agenda

The agenda was reviewed; no changes were made.

State Librarian's Report

Jan Walsh provided her report to Council:

- Heritage Center
The building has been grouped together with an executive office building and general office building. In addition, the GA building has been nominated as a national historical building. It is unknown if OFM will back a single building or multiple buildings.

- WTBBL
The Seattle mayor has responded to the request asking for the transfer of the WTBBL building to the state. The mayor has declined. The next step is to meet with OFM and legislative staff to discuss how to proceed.

Jan met with the Washington chapter of the National Federation of the Blind who told her that they don't want to move WTBBL for two reasons:

1. The building has become a symbol to them of services to the blind.
2. The location of WTBBL is in a neighborhood that is now flourishing.

The Federation passed resolutions that the building and the services be transferred from the City of Seattle to the State.

- Virtual Library Program
The Public Library Directors may propose a statewide virtual library program to the legislature for the 2008 legislative session. This is similar to the Washington Electronic Library proposed by WSL two years ago, but this proposal comes from the library community.

- Governor's Early Learning Conference
Jan was one of approximately nine librarians in a room full of daycare providers, Head Start, ECAP, etc. A number of these regional delegations did mention libraries in their summaries, but the biggest issues they had were funding and collaborations.

WSL's Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) program and training was mentioned and the governor was asked, "How do we get more libraries involved?" (WSL's successful ECRR training provided 6 STAR credits for attendees; daycare staff are required to earn 8 STAR credits per year.)

The keynote speaker, Dr. Carl Bruner, picked up on the library piece and mentioned libraries frequently throughout the day.

One thing that Jan learned is that data shows that 1/3 of kids are in family or home daycare where the providers are not getting the training other types of daycare staff are getting. That would be a good niche for public libraries, both as a place for providers to take the children to, and for them to receive childcare training.

- Washington Learns
Washington Learns is Governor Gregoire's initiative to examine our state's education system—from early learning to K–12 to higher education—and find ways to improve it. Rand described the letter of response to the draft report, "Washington Learns: World-Class, Learner Focused, Seamless Education," sent to the WA Learns steering committee. This letter outlined the value of libraries and how libraries could fit into a seamless education system. This letter of response was signed by Sam Reed, Jan Walsh, and Eve Datisman as chair of LCW.

The final report is now up on the Washington Learns website; libraries are not prominent in it.

Development of Statewide Plans

Rand introduced Saul Amdursky, a consultant from Consensus. After an RFP process, Consensus, a Kansas City-based nonprofit firm, was chosen to develop Washington's statewide plans. They were chosen, in part, because they would bring a fresh approach to the old business of developing statewide plans.

The Consensus team consists of:

- Saul Amdursky, CEO of the Fraser Valley Regional Library, Abbotsford, BC
- Therese Bigelow, Associate Director of Strategic and Community Planning, Kansas City Public Library
- Tom Hennen, Director, Waukesha County Federated Library System, Wisconsin
- Jennifer Wilding, Lead Staff, Consensus / KC Forums
- Dr. Martha Kropf, Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Department of Political Science

Consensus is completing four major deliverables for us:

1. An assessment of the state of libraries in Washington (includes an online survey, future search conferences, and a telephone survey)
2. A statewide plan for library development in Washington
3. The LSTA 5-Year Plan
4. Outcomes and ways to measure them

Council might be called on from time to time for assistance, including sending out the survey link to constituents.

Rand introduced Saul, the lead consultant for the LSTA Five-Year Plan and baseline report.

Saul then led a lengthy discussion that will help "inform the process". The key areas covered were:

- What is the relationship between WSL and the Washington libraries it serves?
- What do we want WSL to be that it isn't now?
- What are the key library service issues affecting Washington libraries?
- What are the state-level, local-level, and national-level political issues that affect libraries?
- What are the other external issues that are affecting, and will affect, Washington libraries?

Next step: Consensus will conduct phone interviews with approximately 30 people. These will include library management, staff, users, and trustees from a wide variety of types, sizes, and geographical locations of libraries. Library Development has recommended a number of key library leaders to be invited to participate. Rand asked Council for additional names.

In February, Consensus will conduct four, one-day future search conferences for key invited Washington State library leaders and other stakeholders.

Nominations Committee – Rural Library Service position / 2007 Officers

Sherry Ann reported that the nominations committee (Sherry Ann, Lethene, and Lisa) reviewed six applications for the Rural Library Service position. The committee

recommended Lillian Heytvelt, Library Director of the Denny Ashby Library in Pomeroy. After discussion, Allyson moved, Deborah seconded, and Council voted unanimously to recommend Lillian for the position.

The committee also recommended that Eve and Lisa continue for a second term as Chair and Vice-Chair. Bruce moved, Lethene seconded; and Council voted unanimously to re-elect Eve as Chair and Lisa as Vice-Chair.

Certificate of Appreciation Presentation

Jan Walsh recognized Lethene for her contribution to Council and her service to the library community, and presented her with a certificate of appreciation.

2008 Ideas Process

Every year Council asks the Washington library community for ideas for the use of federal LSTA funds for the future year. Jeff explained that the Gathering Ideas Process would be the same as last year. The guidelines and forms will be posted to the WSL website January 10, 2007; the deadline for submitting ideas is February 23, 2007.

There was then a discussion on Library Development's workload and staffing. Bruce asked for information on the likely level of funding for continuing projects in 2008.

2007 Meeting Schedule

After checking their calendars the following dates were tentatively set for the 2007 LCW meetings:

- Thursday, March 1, 2007
- Thursday, May 31, 2007
- Friday, Sept. 21, 2007
- Thursday, November 8 or November 29, 2007

Information Sharing and Unfinished Business

Council was referred to the following information in the agenda packet:

- Draft WTBBB Transition Plan
- Letter to the Washington Learns Steering Committee
- Washington Preservation Project Impact Survey Report
- Library Development summary report
- IMLS Primary Source Newsletter

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Yarbrough, Secretary Administrative