

NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION

Lincoln, NE

January 13, 2017

MINUTES

The Nebraska Library Commission met January 13, 2017, at the Atrium building, 1200 N Street, Lincoln. The meeting notice was posted on the Commission website and the Nebraska.gov public meeting calendar.

Commission members present: Michael LaCroix, Debby Bloom, Charles Peek, Susan Warneke and Sandy White; Molly Fisher (via phone). Staff present: Rod Wagner, Richard Miller, Mary Sauers and Jennifer Wrampe.

Michael LaCroix called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. This meeting is in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Debby Bloom and seconded by Sandy White to approve the agenda. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Susan Warneke – aye; Sandy White- aye. Motion approved.

Approval of the Minutes: (November 10, 2016) a motion was made by Charles Peek and seconded by Susan Warneke to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Susan Warneke – aye; Sandy White- aye. Motion approved.

Chair's Report and Commissioners' Comments

Susan Warneke – reported on conversations and comments she has heard about people accessing information at the library. Some comments were about children accessing particular websites at public libraries. She decided to refresh her background on libraries and how internet access and filters work. The Norfolk Daily News sent out letters to 36 rural libraries in the area to see if they would be interested in using materials to encourage children and families to learn more about what a newspaper is about. Currently, 9 libraries have responded with their request to participate.

Debby Bloom – The Bellevue Library Foundation will hold a book sale January 23-February 5. Bellevue East High School students are teaching Storytime for Niño's for preschoolers and parents. The Storytelling club is hosting Omaha Organization for the Purpose of Storytelling (OOPS). The Bellevue Public Library is partnering with Omaha Public Power District and will have Watt detector kits for checkout. Bennington Public Library is offering Zinnio eMagazines and one click digital audio books. Blair Public Library had training for new RFID technology. Omaha author David H. Reinartz will speak at the Gretna Public Library on January 13. A four year old Georgia girl received an award for reading 1,000 books. In recognition of her achievement, she will be an honorary librarian for the Library of Congress for the day.

Sandy White – The Sidney Public Library received drawing pads for patrons to use. The Western Library System board met on January 10.

Charles Peek – Kearney Public Library has an active senior college with 500-600 students. One-third of the classes are held in the library. The Storytelling Festival Kickoff at the Kearney Public Library will begin on January 17.

Molly Fisher – reported that most newspapers have a 2016 Best Books list. She's interested in reading one book on every list, *Underground Railroad*. Laura Marlane, Omaha Public Library Director, has an article in the paper about many different reading challenges for young people and adults. Pat Leach, Lincoln City Libraries Director, gives a presentation every year about the ALA Notable Books and is willing to talk to many different groups about the ALA Notable Books. Elephant and Piggie, characters in children's books by Mo Willems, will be visiting every Lincoln branch library during January. Strategic planning workshops will be held in Syracuse and Geneva. A Database Roadshow will be held on February 17.

Michael LaCroix – The Three Rivers Library System Newsletter promoted the NCompass Biennial Report. TRLS offers grants to library workers who otherwise would not be able to attend conferences. Bailey Halbur, Baright Public Library Assistant Director, has been appointed as the regional system's PEER Coordinator for Douglas, Sarpy and Cass counties. Marcy Retzlaff and Lenaya Callies, Norfolk Public Library, have received the City's Employee Excellence Award. Arlington Public Library has a new director, Deb Wesch. Summer Reading Programs workshops will be held January 27 in Papillion and March 3 in Norfolk. Library Journal has given seven libraries in TRLS star ratings.

Director's Report

Personnel – Scott Scholz and Amanda Sweet have completed their Masters in Library Science degrees. The recruitment process will be reopened for the Western Library System director position.

Rod Wagner reported that the One Book One Nebraska proclamation ceremony for John Neihardt's *Black Elk Speaks* was held January 9. He said that there was good representation from partner organizations. A copy of *Black Elk Speaks* was presented to Governor Ricketts.

LSTA National Leadership Grant Application Update – Wagner reported the grant application is due January 13.

Government Information Services Report – Mary Sauers presented an overview of the history and processes of the Government Documents department. The Nebraska Publications Clearinghouse was established in 1972. The Library Commission joined the Federal Depository Library Program in the same year. The Commission served as Nebraska's regional federal depository until 1984; at that time University of Nebraska-Lincoln Love Library became the regional federal depository. The Commission selects 2% of the federal publications offered through the Government Printing Office program. The state publications collection is by far the larger of the two collections. The Commission collects all Nebraska state agency publications

that are intended for the public. This is required by state statute. The intent is to collect and preserve Nebraska state government publications. The Commission is part of the State Documents Depository program. The Clearinghouse is required to collect at least three paper copies of all incoming publications: one for the Commission, the State Historical Society and the Library of Congress. Once the publications have been processed and cataloged, Mary adds them to the *What's Up Doc?* alerting service. The publications are then shelved. *What's Up Doc?* is published once a month as a blog post and is also published as an annual compilation online and in print. Both state and federal collections are available to the general public to check out.

Library Development Report – Richard Miller announced this would be the last Commission meeting he would be a part of before he retires in March after twenty years with the Commission. Richard commented on a document he distributed that included information about various activities and achievements during his past twenty years with the Library Development department. Richard was applauded for his work and his many contributions to Nebraska library development and services.

Legislative Session Outlook – Wagner reported that during the early days of the legislative session there have been no specific library related bills introduced. The Governor has introduced recommendations for budget cuts for the current fiscal year and introduced his proposals for the 2017-2019 biennium that begins July 1.

Financial Report

November-December Financial Report – Wagner reported the Commission has been operating for several months on the basis of the governor's expectations for state agencies to restrain their expenditures in anticipation of budget reductions.

2015-2017 Biennium Budget Adjustments – Wagner reported that the Governor has proposed a 4% state funds reduction with an additional 3% next fiscal year. The legislature's appropriations committee will hold state agency budget hearings over the next few months. Following hearings the committee will make budget recommendations to the legislature for the next biennium. The committee's budget recommendations will be presented mid-April.

New Business

State Advisory Council on Libraries Appointments - Rod Wagner presented recommendations for appointments to the State Advisory Council on Libraries for three-year terms beginning in January 2017 and continuing until December 31, 2019.

New appointment recommendations:

- Drew Brookhart (Director, Columbus Public Library)
- Scott Childers (Executive Director, Southeast Library System)
- Gail Irwin (Director, Ainsworth Public Library)
- Lori Long (Media Specialist, Gothenburg Junior/Senior High School)
- Dana Morgan (Librarian, Leyton High School, Dalton)

- Lisa Olivigni (Manager, Eiseley Branch Library, Lincoln)
- Sky Seery (Area Assistant Director, Learning Resources, Mid-Plains Community College, McCook)
- Noelle Thompson (Director, Scottsbluff Public Library)

A motion was made by Debby Bloom and seconded by Charles Peek to approve recommended appointments to the State Advisory Council on Libraries. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Susan Warneke – aye; Sandy White-aye. Motion approved.

LSTA State Program Five-Year Evaluation (with John Dale) – John Dale, serving as an independent contractor for the Library Commission, is conducting an evaluation and preparing a report on the Library Commission’s LSTA Five Year Plan (2012-2017). He met with commission members to receive input on focus group questions. This focus group is the third of three to be conducted. He has previously met with the State Advisory Council on Libraries and with the regional library system directors. He will also seek input from NLC staff and other groups.

Next Meeting Dates – The next Commission meetings will be held March 20, May 12, and July 14. The March meeting will be an afternoon meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Michael LaCroix.

Jennifer Wrampe