

## NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION

Lincoln, NE

September 7, 2018

### MINUTES

The Nebraska Library Commission met September 7, 2018, 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, Charles Peek, Debby Bloom, Sandy White, Arun Pondicherry and Lois Todd-Meyer. Staff present: Rod Wagner, Jennifer Wrampe, Mary Jo Ryan, Jerry Breazile.

Michael LaCroix called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed new Library Commission members Lois Todd-Meyer and Arun Pondicherry. This meeting complies with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

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

**Approval of the Minutes:** (May 11, 2018) a motion was made by Charles Peek and seconded by Sandy White to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Arun Pondicherry – aye; Lois Todd-Meyer – aye; Sandy White – aye. Motion approved.

### Chair's Report and Commissioners' Comments

**Charles Peek** – The Central Plains Library System newsletter, Plain Speaking, publicized the upcoming NLA/NSLA Annual Conference. The Ravenna Public Library held its grand opening on August 26. The NEST 529 College Savings Plan will have its fifth Annual Read to Win 529 drawing; 15 readers will each receive \$529. CPLS held its annual meeting this summer. The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Services Retreat will be held September 6-7. Kearney Public Library hosted Craig Johnson, author of the Longmire Series. Holdrege Public Library has a new director, Michael Burris.

**Arun Pondicherry** – no report

**Debby Bloom** – Three Rivers Library System will continue to use the office space it has been using for some time. Ralston Public Library will cut \$10,000 from its budget. The NEST 529 program partnership with the Nebraska summer reading program is open to children ages 3-18 with registration at their local library. Fifteen winners were chosen, five from each congressional district, each to receive \$529 for plan accounts. The winners' libraries will receive \$250. A recognition ceremony will be held at the State Capitol. The University of Nebraska Omaha is recognizing Banned Books Week September 23-26. UNO also negotiated a

license with Elsevier for access to Science Direct across all campuses. Bennington had a life size Candyland for teens.

**Sandy White** – attended the Western Library System annual meeting on July 17 at Chappell Memorial Library & Art Gallery. Google Commemoration Day is September 7. September is Library Card sign up month. Sidney Public Library has a permanent makerspace. The Sidney library has digitized all the local newspapers.

**Lois Todd-Meyer** – no report

**Michael LaCroix** – Three Rivers Library System Director, Eric Jones, attended the Youth Services Retreat. TRLS has six new board members representing different types of libraries. The TRLS board will hold a strategic planning retreat on September 10. The TRLS Annual Meeting was held August 6 at Central Community College in Columbus and via webinar.

### **Director's Report**

*Personnel* – Rod Wagner reported that Mary Jo Ryan will be retiring as Communications Coordinator on September 10; Tessa Terry will be replacing Mary Jo. Jan Jolliffe will return to her position as Western Library System Director on October 1. Holly Atterbury has been hired for the Talking Book and Braille Service Readers Advisor position. Tessa Terry and Devra Dragos recently attended the National Book Festival in Washington D.C. Tessa and Devra staffed the Nebraska exhibit at the festival.

*Library Innovation Studios Project* – Wagner reported the project team is currently relocating equipment to the third cycle of libraries, with installations in Norfolk, North Platte, Ravenna and Scottsbluff. An Annual Maker Showcase was held at the State Fair in Grand Island. The Innovation Studios project team along with library staff and volunteers from project libraries demonstrated makerspace equipment. Hundreds of fair participants observed the exhibit and many used the equipment to make items.

*Sparks Grant Project* – Wagner reported that six libraries are participating in this grant: Genoa, Verdigre, Bancroft, Imperial, Wymore and Bayard. Holly Woldt and Tom Rolfes are working on a proposal that, if approved, will lead to a complete application that would allow extension of the project beyond the one-year grant time period and involve more schools and libraries.

*Nebraska Center for the Book* – Wagner reported the Celebration of Nebraska Books will be held October 27 at the Nebraska History Museum. Book awards will be presented during the Celebration. The Mildred Bennett and Jane Geske awards will be presented. Greg Kosmicki and Mary K. Stillwell, editors of Nebraska Presence, will be keynote presenters. Lois Meyer reported that Nebraska and Iowa Center for the Book representatives are working together this year to select a book for 2019 One Book One Nebraska – All Iowa Reads. The two state partnership is in recognition of the October 2019 joint Nebraska and Iowa library conference.

*2018 Nebraska Book Festival* – Mary Jo Ryan reported that the Nebraska Book Festival was held August 25 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln City Campus Union. There was a good turn out and a good variety of presenters.

*Nebraska Library Association / Nebraska School Librarians Association Annual Conference* – Wagner reported the Annual Conference will be held October 4-6 at the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel in Lincoln.

## **Financial Report**

*August Financial Report* – Wagner distributed the financial report and Jerry Breazile answered questions regarding the budget.

## **New Business**

*2019-2021 Biennial Budget Request* – A document was distributed summarizing the Library Commission's 2019-2021 biennium budget request. Discussion was held. Wagner and Breazile provided explanations regarding the recommendations in the budget request.

A motion was made by Sandy White and seconded by Charles Peek to approve the 2019-2021 biennium budget request. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Arun Pondicherry – aye; Lois Todd-Meyer – aye; Sandy White – aye. Motion approved.

*Election of Commission Chair* – Arun Pondicherry nominated Michael LaCroix to continue as Commission Chair, seconded by Lois Todd-Meyer. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Arun Pondicherry – aye; Lois Todd-Meyer – aye; Sandy White – aye. Motion approved.

*Election of Commission Vice-Chair* – Lois Todd-Meyer nominated Debby Bloom to continue as Commission Vice-Chair, seconded by Arun Pondicherry. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Arun Pondicherry – aye; Lois Todd-Meyer – aye; Sandy White – aye. Motion approved.

*Next Meeting Dates* – The next Commission meetings will be held November 9, 2018, and January 11, 2019

## **Adjournment**

Michael LaCroix adjourned the meeting.

Jennifer Wrampe