

Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries

Nebraska Library Commission
1200 N Street, Lincoln, NE
Friday, July 17, 2015 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

MINUTES

State Advisory Council members present in Lincoln: Beth Kabes (Chair), Francine Canfield, John Dale, and Julee Hector (for Gayle Roberts). Other members participating online via GoToMeeting: Kate Borchman Hassebrook, Beth Falla, Denise Harders, Jean Hellwege, Julie Pinnell, Vickie Retzlaff, Janet Stoeger Wilke, Matthew Williams, Merrillene Wood, and Abbigail (Abby) Yellman. The following Advisory Council members were absent: Susan Franklin, Sherry Houston, Joann Jackson, Cecelia Lawrence, Norma Pountney, Gayle Roberts, and Kara Welch. Commission staff present: Rod Wagner, Linda Babcock, Christa Burns, Devra Dragos, JoAnn McManus, Richard Miller and Mary Jo Ryan.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Beth Kabes opened the meeting with a welcome.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion made by Kate Borchman Hassebrook and seconded by John Dale to approve the agenda. Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes (March 10, 2015): Motion made by John Dale and seconded by Francine Canfield to approve the March 10, 2015 minutes with corrections. Motion approved.

Public Comment: None.

Reports / Discussion:

Nebraska Library Commission – Commission Staff

Financial Training Project - JoAnn McManus

JoAnn McManus reported on the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) project. The FINRA Investor Education Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Northeast Library System in partnership with the Library Commission for financial education to be provided through 22 Nebraska public libraries. The Customer Smart Investing Training project began August 1, 2013 and ended June 30, 2015. The first kick-off event was on October 6, 2014, and the last event was May 14, 2015. The project included 359 participants with pre-retirees being the largest group attending.

The three main goals for the grant were:

- To increase Nebraskans knowledge of basic financial management and investing
- To connect Nebraskans with information resources and activities to meet their financial literacy needs by improving the skills of Nebraska library staff

- To make Nebraskans aware through outreach activities implemented by library staff and local partners that the library is a resource for unbiased financial planning and problem solving resources

JoAnn presented slides depicting information about the project. Some of the information she provided included outcome-based evaluation and of materials on finances and investing. A pre-evaluation survey and a post-evaluation survey were conducted. She provided multiple charts to show results of the project. Comments about the project indicated that 92% of the participants responded that they thought the initiative was useful.

The financial education resources are available free online to all Nebraskans via the Library Commission website. Mary Jo Ryan said that she is working on strategies to publicize availability of the financial education resources. JoAnn said the training was advertised in classified newspaper ads through the Nebraska Press Association. She mentioned that she would provide all the materials if a library wanted to participate online and have volunteers lead on-site programs in their libraries.

Kathy Prohaska-Cue, a Nebraska Extension Economist told JoAnn that with her extensive experience in offering financial sessions for the public she found it difficult to get people to attend the planning events. She said that the public doesn't know the information offered, and they are afraid to appear not knowledgeable. Another reason is the negative connotation associated with financial planning in that there is an assumption that they are having financial problems. JoAnn replied that the training is mostly about how to learn to invest. She has not experienced any negative reactions.

John Dale asked if trust issues ever entered into the training since there is so much financial training available. JoAnn said that many people get financial information by attending seminars. Local brokers send invitations to people for financial planning through local companies, and this tends to discourage people. They may feel the broker is presenting information for their company's advantage.

Richard Miller said there are kits available at the Commission which are excellent resources on financial planning. These kits may be checked out from the Commission. JoAnn said the kits or individual books are mailed out with no charge to your library.

Kate Borchman Hassebrook participated in the financial training. She said the online classes were thorough, easy to understand, and enjoyable.

Financial Training Project detailed reports are available on the Nebraska Library Commission's website at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/finra/reports.aspx>

NebraskAccess - Devra Dragos

Devra Dragos reported on new databases available to Nebraskans. Beginning in 1999, the Library Commission received state funding for subscriptions to informational databases.

NebraskAccess was adopted as a name for the online informational subscription services. There have been various changes in the databases offered since then. The Commission requested funding increases multiple times in order to expand database access and add resources. The legislature has increased funding to cover vendor fee increases but has not increased funding to add additional online resources. In 2010 state budget cuts resulted in the Kiplinger database being dropped, and the Commission negotiated either flat or greatly reduced renewal pricing for the other databases that were kept in NebraskAccess. More recently, EBSCO representatives contacted the Commission and offered a bundle of databases. The licensing provisions allowed for statewide access. The licensing fees offered were less than that being paid for the five subscription databases that had been provided through EBSCO and ProQuest. The new database package became available on July 1, 2015.

Devra Dragos said that over the years school librarians have asked for subscriptions content, Novelist, small business information, and other content. The Commission negotiated and came up with an agreement on what databases we wanted added to the bundle offered. The previous NebraskAccess passwords will continue to be used. Everyone who uses IP recognition should have access to all the databases.

Richard Miller asked if there is a way of contacting libraries that have subscriptions already with the same databases NebraskAccess will provide. Devra said she has sent emails highlighting information about the databases that are available. If any public library in Nebraska is already subscribed to EBSCO products, they will receive a credit if they are in the middle of a subscription cycle. If they are on the same subscription cycle as NebraskAccess, they were told they would not have to renew their subscription.

Nebraska Department of Education Rule 10 requires all schools to have a current encyclopedia with a copyright date of five years or newer, either in print or electronic form, plus provide required periodicals in print or electronic form. With the information provided in the added databases, criteria and resources meet Rule 10 the requirements. This will save Nebraska small and rural schools, especially, a lot of money.

Julee Hector expressed interest in the Devra offering training about the new NebraskAccess databases at the NLA 2015 Conference. Janet Stoeger Wilke suggested contacting the Educational Service Units as a way to publicize the changes in NebraskAccess databases. Devra noted that librarians may register for face-to-face Database Road Show workshops through the Library Commission's calendar and online registration system. These training sessions will occur during August and September 2015. More sessions will be added depending on demand.

Nebraska Library Association – Julee Hector for Gayle Roberts

Julee said the NLA/NSLA Joint Conference 2015 will have four pre-conferences. One of the pre-conferences will be a demonstration of maker spaces and will be held at the University of Nebraska Innovation Campus. Julee also reported that NLA by-laws are being updated.

Nebraska School Librarians Association –Jean Hellwege

Jean commented on plans for the NLA/NSLA conference. The keynote speakers will be Terri Grief, AASL Past President, and Sari Feldman, ALA President. NSLA is working towards strengthening partnerships with other organizations by providing web information on their website that is pertinent to school librarians. Jean also reported that new board members were recently elected.

Council Round Table

Jean Hellwege reported that all sixth-grade students in Lincoln Public Schools will receive a Chromebook computer this fall. The students can use them at school and at home. She mentioned that many students do not have internet connectivity, and those students depend on the libraries for their internet connections.

Kate Borchman Hassebrook reported that Lyons Public Library received funds from their endowment fund to digitize copies of the *Lyons Mirror* newspaper starting in 1884. The library will purchase subscriptions to Ancestry.com and Family Tree Maker. The Lyons library will also provide the ability to transfer home videos to DVDs. She was pleased that 57 students and 11 teenage volunteers attended the library's first summer reading program.

Denise Harders reported that the Central Plains Library System has purchased Cover One, a new book binding system. She is very pleased with it, and she expects the binding system will be used for repair of many books in the future.

Julie Pinnell reported that the Doane College library recently completed a joint-community project for digitizing the *Crete News* newspaper. She also reported that the library has delayed switching to OCLC's WorldCat Discovery interface from WorldCat Local. In May the library hosted a successful first joint conference with Kansas and Nebraska college library sections. Next spring the conference will be held in Kansas.

Vickie Retzlaff reported that Grant County Library staff members have been active participating in the online SkillSoft classes and viewing webinars. The Summer Reading Program theme, "Every Hero Has a Story" has been very successful this year. The library partnered with the Extension Service to be a part of a "Quilt of Valor" project which the library tied into the Summer Reading Program. Vickie is also working on strategic planning, updating computers, weeding books for the fall book sale and working on the library budget.

Janet Stoeger Wilke reported that the Calvin T. Ryan Library at UNK has selected Lyris (Integrated Digital Marketing Software) to host the library's archive space. The archive space will be used to describe, manage and apply access to archive books. A formal proposal to university administration has been submitted for an institutional repository. Janet plans to move forward on that project.

Matthew Williams reported the Kearney Public Library completed a successful Summer Reading Program. The library has recently started offering Freegal Music downloads and streaming for its patrons.

Abigail Yellman reported that Scottsbluff Public Library's had 2,107 children participating in the library's Summer Reading Program. In June 4,407 children attended events, which was an 1,100 increase from last year. Abby also reported that the hold on staff hiring since March 2014 will not continue, and library staffing will be back to normal by August 2015.

Beth Kabes reported that ESU7 (Columbus) has been very busy this summer. Teachers are attending professional development training at the facility. Thirty teachers attended a two-day Blended Learning Book Camp presented by Marcia Kish from Columbus, OH. ESU7 staff members have been preparing and recording training webinars for teachers and students to view.

John Dale and his wife toured the Conn Library at Wayne State College recently. The library's construction project is progressing. John mentioned that a lot of compact shelving is being used in the library. The library remains open during construction.

Francine Canfield reported that Bailey Halbur was hired as the Baright Public Library (Ralston) assistant director after the position was vacant for eleven months. Francine reported that the Summer Reading Program theme was very popular this year. Ralston has the first woman fire chief in Nebraska, and she was a reader to young children this year. Operation Paperback, an outreach program sponsored by the library, has provided sixteen boxes of books to the military since June. Due to the popularity of the program the program will be extended to September 21, 2015.

Julee Hector said that Lincoln City Libraries are excited about their partnership with Nebraska Link to greatly improve the libraries' broadband capabilities.

Merrillene Wood from Western Nebraska Community College was not able to attend the meeting today. Rod Wagner reported that Merrillene will be moving to Spain soon. Merrillene had earlier conveyed her appreciation to the State Advisory Council for the years she has been a member.

New Business

Recommendations and Resolutions

No recommendations or resolutions were presented.

Next Meeting: November, 20, 2015 10:00 am to 2:30 pm at Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln.

Adjournment

Motion was made by John Dale to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Kate Borchman Hassebrook. The Advisory Council adjourned at approximately 2:40 P.M.