

Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries

Nebraska Library Commission, Atrium Conference Room
Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

MINUTES

State Advisory Council members present in Lincoln: Cecelia Lawrence(Chair), Drew Brookhart, Scott Childers, John Dale, Gail Irwin, Joann Jackson, Beth Kabes, Angela Kroeger, Lori Long, Laura Marlane, Lisa Olivigni, Sky Seery, Noelle Thompson, and Matthew Williams. Joining via GoToMeeting: Dana Morgan. Advisory Council members Susan Franklin, Sherry Houston, Julie Pinnell, and Charlene Rasmussen were absent. Also present were Nebraska Library Commission members: Debby Bloom, Molly Fisher, Charles Peek, and Sandy White. Commission staff present: Rod Wagner, Devra Dragos, JoAnn McManus, Christa Porter, Mary Jo Ryan, Sam Shaw, Tessa Terry, and Linda Babcock.

Public attending: Linda Barker.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Cecelia Lawrence welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Beth Kabes and seconded by Angela Kroeger. Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2016 Meeting: Moved by Matthew Williams and seconded by John Dale. The Minutes were approved.

Public Comment: Linda Barker, Steve Fosselman, and Nancy Peek.

LSTA Five-Year Program Evaluation –John Dale

John Dale reported on the LSTA Five-Year State Plan evaluation. Five years ago two goals were set for the plan. The first goal is that *all Nebraskans will benefit from life-long learning and cultural enrichment delivered through their library programs and services*. Among the activities to be evaluated are Nebraska eReads/OverDrive, NebraskAccess, Talking Book & Braille Service, and Nebraska Center for the Book. The second goal is *library staff and supporters will have the tools and skills to provide and sustain needed programs and services to their target audiences*. The activities involved with the second goal are library improvement through consultation and training, interlibrary loan and reference service, lender compensation, regional library systems, children and young adult library services, library statistical survey via Bibliostat Collect, technology innovation, statewide library improvement services, and Library Improvement Grants.

Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries members participated in focus groups during their November 11, 2016 meeting to discuss four questions related to evaluating the LSTA State Program Five-Year Plan. The report John submitted involved input from those focus groups, Regional Library System Directors, Nebraska Library Commissioners, a broadly distributed survey, and Library Commission staff. John thanked Sam Shaw for distributing the survey for inclusion in the report. The survey resulted in 454 responses. The report reflects program achievements and the results of goals established five years ago.

John said that the report shows that the goals have been achieved, or partially achieved, for all the activities, and many of the activities continue to be successful. The on-going activities will be part of the discussion in today's focus groups.

Rod Wagner reported that the 2012-2017 LSTA Stated Plan evaluation report will be distributed to State Advisory Council members, Commissioners, and posted for the public. The report will be valuable in preparing the next five-year plan.

Library Advocacy and Collaborative Initiatives – Steve Fosselman

Steve reported that he was pleased with the Advocacy Day activities today. There was good attendance and participation from library advocates. Many senators or their legislative aides attended the luncheon. He stressed that flexibility is paramount because some senators will make a decision at the very last minute to attend.

Fosselman reported that there are many success stories of Nebraska library boards that work for the betterment of the community. He believes this is true of governing boards and advisory boards, and he stressed that both kinds of boards need to be united and support each other in their efforts. He encouraged a common message from all boards.

Steve sees a future for the Central Nebraska Digital Coop, Pioneer Consortium and other initiatives to have a great statewide membership to supplement the Library Commission resources.

LSTA Five-Year Plan (2017-2022) – Discussion

Rod Wagner reported that the LSTA Five-Year Plan is due June 30, 2017. JoAnn McManus said that when John Dale conducted the evaluation for the current LSTA Five-Year State Plan, a survey was sent to all Nebraska libraries asking how they can be served and what should have been done to do so. The question that the advisory council will address today is "How can you help your customers?"

JoAnn McManus and Mary Jo Ryan organized three focus groups (World Café model) to discuss and gather information relevant to the plan. JoAnn explained that each focus group will discuss two of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) six measuring success focal areas. Those focal areas are information access, institutional capacity, life-long learning, human services, economic and employment development, and civic engagement.

Reports / Discussion:

Nebraska Library Commission – Rod Wagner

Rod Wagner asked JoAnn McManus to comment on the IMLS National Leadership Grant application. JoAnn reported that the Library Commission has submitted a second application for an IMLS National Leadership Grant. An earlier preliminary proposal was not successful in receiving an invitation for a full proposal. The grant application requests four makerspaces that would rotate to each of thirty Nebraska public libraries over a three-year period. Grant awards are expected to be announced in April.

McManus said that Dr. Shane Farritor, executive chairman on the board of advisors for Nebraska Innovation Studios, is convening a Makerspace Conference on April 17 and 18, 2017 in Lincoln. He is building a network of makerspaces, and he would like organizations that have makerspaces or are planning makerspaces to attend.

Nebraska Library Association – Angela Kroeger

The 2017 NSLA/NLA Conference will be on October 11, 12, and 13 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney. The theme will be “Providing Access to the Good Life for All.” Jill Bourne, *Library Journal* 2017 Librarian of the Year and Todd Bureson, *School Librarian* of the Year 2017 will be keynote speakers. Kroeger said that the NLA executive director has resigned, and applications for that position will be forthcoming.

Nebraska School Librarians Association – Beth Kabes

The NETA (Nebraska Educational Technology Association) Conference is April 19-21. Jennifer LaGarde, the “library girl” will be the featured speaker. School Librarians Day is April 1 at UNO. School Librarians in the Digital Age will be held on June 9.

Council Round Table – Successes and Challenges

Drew Brookhart—

There will be a bond issue election in Columbus on April 11 for financing a new Columbus public library facility. With a goal of \$8 million, \$4 million has been raised. Drew said that several libraries have shown interest in joining the ONELibrary consortium. Drew is seeking funding for the library’s bookmobile.

Scott Childers—

The Southeast Library System (SELS) has a number of new librarians with no prior library experience. Scott has been visiting these librarians to provide them with information. Libraries in SELS are involved in Library Madness, an activity where libraries report how many items they circulated in the past week.

Joann Jackson—

Joann said that Carol Gruber from Kilgore Memorial Library in York retired after 30 years of service.

Laura Marlane—

A challenge for Laura right now is the Omaha Public Library budget. In July the Omaha Public Library will move its broadband service to Network Nebraska.

Gail Irwin—

Gail reported that an addition for the Ainsworth Public Library was completed in 2012. That addition included book stacks, four computer stations, tables and chairs. The library recently completed its second phase of library improvements, including improvements such as LED lights, new paint, new carpet, new tile, a new circulation desk and a history room. The library has been adding more programs since the improvements. Gail said that she is pleased that Ainsworth Public Library was named a star library in *Library Journal*.

Cecelia Lawrence—

Cecelia reported that a North Platte Public Library challenge has been scheduling the library meeting room for repeat presentations of their Nebraska 150 Year presentations. She said her success is the library makerspace with ten in attendance for the first session and fifty the last.

Sky Seery—

Sky reported that Von Riesen Library staff members are involved in plans being discussed for the merging with Mid-Plains Community College-McCook for a Student Success Center. This learning commons will be implemented in the next two to six years.

Lori Long—

The fiction section of the Gothenburg Jr/Sr High School Library has been organized by genre, and circulation has gone up. A challenge resulting from the reorganization is cataloging, processing and procedures. Another challenge is planning for a makerspace at the library.

Matthew Williams—

Matthew reported that Kearney Public Library will have three murals on the outside wall. Art bike racks will also be added outside. The library foundation has provided funds for three new shelves to highlight Nebraska authors, youth authors and adult authors.

Angela Kroeger—

Angela reported that despite the budget issues at Criss Library, she is optimistic and enthused because of community partnerships. She will be working on history projects soon.

Beth Kabes—

Beth attended the #GoOpen Regional Summit in Council Bluffs, Iowa on March 3. Beth said that there was a lot of conversation about Future Ready.

John Dale—

John reported that Lincoln City Libraries has hired a consulting firm as part of planning for a central library. The first of two town hall meetings was held on February 23 and it was well attended. The new library will be a \$50 million project.

Lisa Olivigni—

Lisa worked as the Director of Crete Public Library for twenty years, and in November 2016 she started a new position as manager of the Lincoln City Libraries Eiseley Branch. Lisa said that she previously worked for Lincoln City Libraries and is enjoying her return to Lincoln.

Noelle Thompson—

Noelle reported that two successful activities at Lied Scottsbluff Library are the adult reading program and the STEM program. Many of the programs are at maximum capacity, which makes it difficult to add additional days or times for programs due to the lack of staff and resources. She said that she and one other staff member are new at the library and there is a lot to learn.

New Business

There were no recommendations or resolutions brought before the Council.

The next meetings will be July 21, 2017 and November 17, 2017.

Adjournment at 4:00 pm.