



Straight *talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

System Reconfiguration Update

Following the July meeting, representatives to make up an interim board for the new system have been selected. The interim board will be in effect until July 2016.

The representatives from NELS are Beth Foulks, Lauran Lofgren, and Kathy Ageton. Lauran and Kathy both have previous experience as NELS board members. The representatives from ELS are Francine Canfield, Rose Barcal, and Laura England-Biggs. Aimee Morlan is the representative from Cass county from the Southeast Library System. The group will be having their first meeting on September 11.

On **October 9** there will be a brief, special meeting taking place at the South Sioux City convention center during the NLA conference. The purpose of this meeting is to take a vote to approve the consolidation plan between NELS and ELS. All member libraries will be formally notified of the vote and will receive related materials. This vote is a formality required by the law. You also do not have to be registered for the conference to attend the meeting. The room the meeting will take place in will be announced at a later date.

Both Gail and I will continue to offer services as usual for our offices until the end of the year. As of right now, it is still our intention that the new system will go into effect on January 1, 2015.

Please stay tuned to the website, listerv, and this newsletter to stay up-to-date on information about the transition and decisions made by the interim board.



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ALA 2014 Conference Review

I attended the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas at the end of June. In addition to sessions I attended for personal professional development, there were also many sessions that gave me a lot of great ideas that I want to share with you. The following are some of my favorites.

I will also be covering more of the sessions I attended at the Annual Meeting on September 25. I will be posting the handout from the meeting on the website so that you can access it if you are unable to attend.

Great Brands Start from Within

A brand should have four goals: focus, clarity, flexibility, and sustainability. Your brand is your reputation, the way you make people feel, and customer experience. It's not your logo. Fundamentally, it's your culture, community, and staff. When beginning a branding project, a low-level remodel (paint or art) can be the beginning of embracing the new brand. Know your why and who you want to be and develop that into your brand. Use it as the flag you march behind.

A branding project does not have to be a large-scale, expensive project. There are just as many ways for you to develop your own brand within your library without using an external organization to aid in the development of a logo or slogan. In fact, neither of those are even a necessity for a successful branding project.

Get Ready for Banned Books Week

Some authors will view one of their books being challenged as a badge of honor. An interesting thing to consider when faced with a banned book is that it has been banned because it has something that someone doesn't want you to think about.

As part of your library's policies, have a blanket statement to prevent challenges for bits & pieces within a book. This is especially true for graphic novels because of being able to "flip test" them to find a single, objectionable moment. The library is collecting for the entire community—not just its vocal part. Try to have things for people who can't ask for those books. Every single story of a ban or challenge is a community where rights are at stake.

Storytime: Not Just Reading Aloud

Rhyming and rhythm from songs helps children understand syllables, word comprehension, and emotionally connect to the content.

Play is great for both fine and gross motor skills. It can also help children build vocabulary because they are usually talking the whole time and gives them a chance to put context into the world.

Interactive stories such as draw/cut & tell engage children in a different way than simply reading from a book. Science observation and easy experiments also help children understand the world and give it context.

Continued on page 5.



Library & Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Fall, 2014

August 18, 2014 – December 12, 2014

LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

This course, the first in the Library and Information Services curriculum provides introductory information in multiple areas.

- Library history and organizations
- Foundation Principles/Code of Ethics
- Information databases and Internet usage

LIBR 2250 Leadership & Management in Library & Information Agencies

Michael Straatmann, Instructor

This course includes the theories, concepts and activities integral to leading and managing 21st Century libraries and information agencies.

- Leadership principles
- Management strategies
- Policies & procedures

Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services or may be taken concurrently

LIBR 2940 Library and Information Services Capstone Practicum

Erica Rose, Instructor

This capstone course is the last course in the Library & Information Services program. Students will complete 40 hours of service learning in a host library. The course also includes a review of the principle pieces of learning from the LIS program.

Prerequisites: LIBR 1010, 2100, 2150, 2210, & 2250

<i>Library and Information Services Online Course Offerings</i>		
<i>Fall</i>	<i>Spring</i>	<i>Summer</i>
Libr 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services	Libr 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies	Libr 2100 Reference Resources and Services
Libr 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies	Libr 2210 Cataloging and Classification	
Libr 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum	Libr 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum	

<http://www.cccneb.edu/degreesonline>

See: Library and Information Services

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: Dee Johnson
djohnson@cccneb.edu, 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

Library Laws FAQs

At the quarterly meeting between the Nebraska Library Commission and the regional systems earlier this month, a discussion was held on Nebraska's laws pertaining to libraries. In the state statutes, the laws pertaining to libraries fall under Chapter 51 and select sections of Chapter 84. Chapter 51 can be viewed online at <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/browse-chapters.php?chapter=51>

The following are some "highlights" relating to some commonly asked questions from libraries across the state.

Laws Cover Most Public Libraries in Nebraska

51-202: The library board shall have at least five members. Neither the mayor nor any member of the city council or village board shall be a member of the library board.

51-205: The library board shall have the power to make and adopt such bylaws, rules, and regulations for its own guidance and for the government of the library.

51-207: The library board shall have exclusive control of expenditures of all money collected or donated to the credit of the library fund.

51-209: All taxes levied or collected and all funds donated or in any way acquitted for the erection, maintenance, or support of any public library shall be kept for the use of the library separate and apart from all other funds... and shall not be used or disbursed for any other purpose or in any other manner.

51-211: The library board may fix and impose, by general rules, penalties and forfeitures... and fix and impose reasonable fees, not to exceed the library's actual cost, for nonbasic services.

Confidentiality of Library Records (Records which may be withheld from the public; enumerated)

84-712.05: Records or portions of records kept by a publicly funded library which, when examined with or without other records, reveal the identity of any library patron using the library's services.

Open Meetings Laws (AKA Public Meetings Laws)

84-1409: Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion or public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body.

84-1410 (Closed meetings): For the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close.

Library Laws Cont.

84-1411: Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting by a method designated by each public body and recorded in its minutes. Such notice shall contain and agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours.

84-1412: The public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies. A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid participation at all meetings. No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting. The body may require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself.

ALA 2014 Conference Review Cont.

Stan Lee on Comic Books and Reading

“I think what you do is such a valuable thing and what you are for the people is such a valuable thing.” Comics and graphic novels are good for kids and reading. A child picks up a book and is intrigued because of the excited drawings. They’ve helped interest kids in reading and helped make them better readers. “Libraries are the most wonderful places in the world.” Books are so important and so engulfing that when you read a book you wouldn’t even know it when someone is fighting behind you (in reference to his cameo in the Amazing Spider-Man).

Links

[Great Brands Start from Within](#)—All of the resources from this pre-conference session. Scroll down to the comments section to find them.

[Storyblocks](#) —Songs and rhymes in multiple languages from the Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy.

[Comic Book Legal Defense Fund](#)—Resources for handling banned and challenged comic books.

[Notes from the Story Room](#)— Examples of simple stories using basic, and easy-to-find props and resources.

[Stan Lee Speaker Session](#)—The majority of his speaker session.

Library Happenings



Pierce public library held a braiding class as part of their summer programming.



A nature walk to create a special art project wrapped up the Summer Reading Program at the Leigh public library.



Atkinson public library received 2nd place for their "Frozen" float during the Hay Days celebration.



Kids at Howells public library created a geyser from Diet Coke and Mentos during their Summer Reading Program.

2014 NELS Annual Meeting

September 25

Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk

\$25

5 CE Credits

8:30-9:00

Registration and Refreshments

9:00-9:50

40 Tech Tips and Tricks —Michael Sauers

Young Adult Book Club—Anneka Ramirez

Learn about hosting a book or adults in their 20s and 30s.

NELS Board Meeting

10:00-10:50

ALA Review—Sarah Warneke

Topics include: Nonfiction Reader's Advisory, practical outreach, and creative aging.

TBA

11:00-11:50

Systems Reorganization Q&A Sarah Warneke & Richard Miller

12:00-12:30

Lunch

12:30-1:20

Featured Speaker: Twyla Hansen "Poetry from the Plains"

1:30-2:20

Dewey or Don't We? - Denise Harders

The move away from Dewey classification to genres has resulted in confusion, unanswered questions, and a variety of attempts. Join us for a discussion about whether the Dewey Decimal classification system has run its course or if Dewey is still the best alternative.

Summer Reading Smackdown— Deb Robertson

Hear about the reading challenge between library users in York and Seward.

2:30-3:00

Door Prizes, Evaluation, and Closing

Contact the office or [click here to register](#). Registrations must be received by 5pm on Sept. 17, 2014.

Northeast Library System
3038 33rd Ave
Columbus, NE 68601

PH: 800-578-1014
PH/FAX: 402-564-1586

Invitation to attend ELS Direct Meeting

Gail Formanack from Eastern Library System has extended an invitation to all the NELS directors to attend the next Direct meeting that is going to be held on October 24 at the North Bend public library. Direct meetings are similar to the NELS Target meetings and are aimed at public library directors. More information will be shared when we are closer to the meeting date.

This would be a great opportunity to meet some of the librarians that will be joining us in the new system next year.



Upcoming Events

September 25: Annual meeting, Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk

October 8-10: NLA Annual Conference

October 9: Vote on plan for system reconfiguration, NLA Conference (registration for conference not required), specific location TBA

October 24: DIRECT meeting with ELS, North Bend public library, 9:30am

November 12: NELS board meeting, Leigh public library, 10am

If you have a book review, piece of news, or photo that you would like to share with your fellow Northeast Nebraska libraries, email it to Sarah at the NELS office.

nelsdirector@gmail.com

Northeast Library System Board Minutes

Wednesday, August 6, 2014 Virtual

The Northeast Library System Board met online Wednesday, May 14, 2014, at GoToMeeting. The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by Judy Hagan, and roll call showed board members Beth Foulks, Tami Anderson, Sara Lee, Dawnn Tucker, Audrey Loosvelt, Tim Sebade, and Audrey Loosvelt present. Also present were Director Sarah Warneke and Laura Johnson from The Nebraska Library Commission; monitored by Michael Sauers.

The May minutes will be approved at the next meeting. Suggestion made that minutes be emailed to board members.

Correspondence included thank you cards from various libraries and individuals and several invitations. A letter from NNCC regarding new policies for bookings will be emailed out to the board members.

The financial situation was reviewed by Shelia. This is Shelia's last meeting. She is resigning as of August 31st. She will meet with the auditor before she leaves. NELS has not received the last quarter payment from NLC. Assets total - \$47,788.93. The next CD due is Jan, 2015. CD totals - \$53,285.96. Suggestion made for a temp or part-time employee to do payroll checks. Thank you, Shelia for your years of work for the system!!

Reports and handouts from the Nebraska Library Commission were presented by Laura Johnson. She will email out a copy of the items covered.

Director Sarah Warneke shared a written Director's Report and talked of highlights from that report. Much of her time has been spent working with Gail Formanack and a lawyer in preparation for the system reconfiguration.

The Budget Committee will need to meet soon. Sarah will email the committee members with details.

Sarah reviewed the minutes of a system reconfiguration meeting. She will email out the same minutes to each board member. Included in the discussion were:

- An interim board of 7 members (3 from each system and 1 from Cass County)

- Discussion of legal duties of the transition team and personnel matters

- The transition will be termed "consolidation" and a "new" system organized

- The transition team will meet from Sept 2014 to July 2015

- Discussion of using a calendar fiscal year for the new system

A new name for the system to be chosen and recorded with the AG/other paperwork

Keeping the same 501(c)(3) number

Limiting the new system board to 5-9 members, perhaps chosen geographically

Current NELS board to continue meeting through 2014

Adjustments needed to by-laws

Need for an umbrella insurance policy to cover the transition

A vote to be taken at the NLA conference in October. Approval needed from 2/3 of voters present from the 2 current systems.

The Sept board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 25 at the Norfolk Lifetime Learning Center during the annual conference.

The November meeting (last for the current board) will be at Leigh. Date to be announced.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:25. (M)- Anderson (2) Foulks.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Foulks, Secretary

Northeast Library System

3038 33rd Avenue, Suite 13

Columbus, NE 68601

Phone: 800-578-1014

Phone/Fax: 402-564-1586

Email: Sarah Warneke nelsdirector@gmail.com

Shelia Cermak nelibrarystem@gmail.com

Website: <http://libraries.ne.gov/nels>



The Northeast Library System serves the counties of Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Butler, Cedar, Colfax, Dakota, Dixon, Holt, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.

“Reading is very good... and you can quote me!”

~ Stan Lee, ALA Annual Conference 2014

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Please contact

Sarah Warneke

or Shelia Cermak

at the Northeast Library

System Office

with any questions

or concerns.

Sarah Warneke, editor

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Our NELS Board Members

Judy Hagan, *President*, Atkinson Public Library

Dee Johnson, *Vice President*

Beth Foulks, *Secretary*, Ponca Public School

Audrey Loosvelt, Madison Public School

Dawnn Tucker, Lied Pierce Public Library

Judy Hilkemann, Norfolk Public Library

Mary Austin, Little Priest Tribal College

Mary Anne Schwarten, Emerson Public Library

Sara Lee, Central City Public Library

Tami Anderson, Hartington Public Library

Tim Sebade, Emerson Public Library