



WISCONSIN
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee

Friday, January 28, 2022

10:00 AM

Virtual via Go-To-Meeting

MINUTES

Members present: (*all attending remotely*) Pete Loeffel, Betsy Bleck, Kris Adams Wendt, Mark Arend, Bruce Gay, Vicki Teal Lovely, Sherry Machones, Margaret Murphy, Steve Ohs, Jim Ramsey, Nyama Reed, Kristopher Turner, Laura Sauser (WLA Executive Director), Steve Conway (Conway Consulting)

Members absent: Nick Dimassis, Heather Johnson, Kathy Pletcher

Guests: Tessa Michaelson Schmidt (DPI), Ben Miller (DPI)

Chair Loeffel called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. The roll was called and a quorum declared present. The agenda order was approved by consensus.

Approval of minutes from the November 12, 2021 meeting. The minutes of the November 12, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously on a **motion from Arend seconded by Gay**.

2022 LD&L Committee. Loeffel introduced and welcomed 2022 WLA Vice-President/President-Elect Kristopher Turner to LD&L. Nyama Reed will continue to attend LD&L meetings; both the WLA President and Vice-President will be on the LD&L roster going forward. Jennifer Einwalter has stepped off the committee with the caveat that she is still willing to help with county/local library funding issues that may arise. After a brief discussion, it was decided that Loeffel and Bleck would review LD&L sub-committees (Library Legislative Day, County & Municipal Funding, System Funding Analysis) and report back in March. Future LD&L program offerings at spring and fall conferences will be considered as a timely response to issues as they arise rather than as an ongoing obligation requiring a designated coordinator. Anyone interested in volunteering for specific subcommittee assignments was asked to contact Loeffel.

WLA Update. Sauser mentioned that Reed would be appearing on Wisconsin Public Radio at 7:30 AM on January 31 with host Kate Archer Kent under the heading "Library Leaders Head to the Capitol." The first Intellectual Freedom Special Interest Group (SIG) meet-up of 2022 is on Monday, January 24 from 11-12pm. Discussion ensued regarding proactive actions WLA might initiate to enhance greater understanding of library collection development and reconsideration policies and whether there was any potential for legislative concerns in this area. Conway will seek guidance from library friends at the capitol. It was suggested that the County & Municipal Funding sub-committee might be a useful model for a collection concerns rapid response team, which could also include non-LD&L members. Loeffel, Reed and Sauser anticipate dialog with representatives of the Wisconsin Educational Media & Technology Association (WEMTA).

Legislative update. Conway reported on Assembly minority leadership changes and an increase in legislative initiatives from both sides of the aisle in the few remaining floor periods prior to session adjournment for campaign season. He reminded the group that the LD&L budget team needs to work with DPI to determine priority library funding initiatives for the next biennial budget session by June of this year.

Library Legislative Day. Gay reported that the Library Legislative Day Committee has been holding weekly Friday morning check-in virtual meetings since January 7 with the final session on February 4. This is WLA's "thank you" messaging year for support shown during the 2021-2023 budget process. Ramsey provided a registration and appointment scheduling update. Attendance is a little better than half the pre-pandemic draw and committee consensus was to abandon recruitment for 100% legislator coverage this year. Milwaukee Public Library is not participating this year. There are about 30 legislators who will not have appointments; some offices are not scheduling

any in-person meetings. Governor Evers, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Underly and State Librarian Schmidt will be speaking. Senator Felzkowski and Representative Loudenbeck will receive Library Champion Awards and Senator Felzkowski's aide Stamena Ivanov will receive a Special Recognition plaque. The committee is looking into videotaping the speeches and awards for posting to WLA social media.

Libraries Transform posters. Murphy met virtually with Loeffel, Bleck, Sauser and Wendt on January 25 for a project status check-in. The WLA Foundation has granted the project request of \$1917 to initiate the next phase. Process steps were reviewed and revised.

County & Municipal Funding Workgroup. Arend had nothing new to report. Ohs mentioned that Walworth County has approved new standards and county plan.

Federal Relations Coordinator update. Machones delivered the report linked [here](#). ALA is not holding a National Library Day this year. It is anticipated that one or two librarians from each state will be asked to talk to key members of Congress, but that information has not yet been shared.

DPI/DLT update. The DPI report to LD&L is linked [here](#). It stated: "Dr. Kriz has begun the analysis phase of the Funding Formula Analysis. He has created databases with the data provided to him (system plans, system annual reports, library annual reports) to look for predictive relationships to inform how state aid could potentially be distributed, using a data set of 20 years (2000 – 2020). DPI staff are meeting with Dr. Kriz to provide clarification and background context on data elements and library structure in Wisconsin as he completes his analysis. Updates will be provided to the LD&L Funding Formula subcommittee as findings emerge."

Funding Analysis Subcommittee update. (See above) Members are anticipating the next opportunity to be useful.

Announcements and other business. Turner shared that he authored an article about law, libraries and governance expected to be published in the February issue of *Wisconsin Lawyer* (official publication of the State Bar of Wisconsin). Conway suggested that the [link](#) be shared with LD&L and that WLA also share resources like this with the membership.

Remaining 2022 meeting dates. March 18, May 20, September 23, November 18

Loeffel declared the meeting adjourned at 11:03 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Kris Adams Wendt, Recorder