



Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee

Friday, July 22, 2022

10:00 AM

South Central Library System meeting room, Madison WI

MINUTES

Members present: Pete Loeffel, Kris Adams Wendt*, Mark Arend*, Sherry Machones, Margaret Murphy*, Steve Ohs*, Jim Ramsey*, Vicki Teal Lovely, Kristopher Turner*, Laura Sauser (WLA Executive Director), Steve Conway (Conway Consulting)*

Members absent: Betsy Bleck, Nick Dimassis, Bruce Gay, Heather Johnson, Kathy Pletcher, Nyama Reed,

Guests: Ben Miller (DPI)*, Shannon Shultz (DPI)*

**denotes remote attendance*

Loeffel called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM after technical difficulties were sorted out. The agenda order was approved by consensus. Conway was only able to participate for about 30 minutes due to another commitment.

Approval of minutes from the May 20, 2022 meeting. The minutes of the May 20, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously on a **motion from Ohs seconded by Machones.**

Legislative Update/2023-2025 Wisconsin Biennial Budget. Conway led discussion of WLA's state aid priorities for the 2023-2025 biennial budget to be submitted by DPI in September, along with the need to continue relationship building during campaign season to be ready for the start of the new legislative session in January 2023. Increased constituent interest in local library collection development decisions have opened the door to opportunities for conversations between legislators and WLA members to foster greater understanding of related library policies and procedures. Conway will be arranging targeted capitol appointments for LD&L budget and IF team members.

2023 Library Legislative Day. Sauser provided a progress report on arrangements for February 8, 2023. Madison Public Library will provide space for the morning briefing program prior to capitol appointments, with a lodging block at the Madison Concourse. Murphy has volunteered to assist with renovation of the digital registration program. A LLD committee meeting will be arranged before the September meeting.

WLA update. Sauser reported that Hannah Bunting has accepted a full-time position as Community Engagement Manager with Lussier Community Education Center in Madison. A new Membership & Communications Coordinator will be hired. The LD&L program panel for Fall Conference on building legislative relationships has been approved. Plans are underway for the 2023 WLA Leadership Institute, where there is an opportunity for LD&L sponsored advocacy content.

Libraries Transform Poster Project. Murphy reported on poster progress to date. Finished posters will be delivered to Conway for distribution at the capitol. Securing photos from capitol staff has become more difficult since adjournment for campaign season.

Conference programs. Discussed under WLA update.

County & Municipal Funding Workgroup. Arend stated there was nothing new to report.

Federal Relations Coordinator update. Machones summarized the information linked [here](#). The Federal budget process for FY23 is working its way through the U.S. House. Library related items are generally seeing a proposed funding

increase so far. The Senate Democrats do not have the votes to move FY 2023 spending bills without a Continuing Resolution that will keep the government open and push final spending decisions to the end of the year.

DPI/DLT update. Miller summarized the DPI report to LD&L which is linked [here](#). Dr. Barbara Van Haren has been appointed Interim Assistant State Superintendent, Division for Libraries and Technology. The Library Services Team has begun briefing the DPI Cabinet and State Superintendent on library related budget items. Dee Pettack has left the DPI Policy, Budget and Research Team; DPI Executive Director Thomas McCarthy will liaison with Conway and WLA going forward.

Funding Analysis Subcommittee update. Miller referenced the summary on page two of the DPI report linked above. Library system directors have been briefed. Words of mutual appreciation for time invested in candid conversations on a complex subject were expressed by Miller and the members of the LD&L Funding Analysis Subcommittee.

Announcements and other business. There was a brief discussion of intellectual freedom matters. Ohs announced he is stepping away from the LD&L Committee – citing involvement in the pending merger of Arrowhead and Lakeshores systems – but is willing to be called upon for assistance and assignments as needed. He expressed admiration for committee accomplishments during the past five years and was thanked in return for his contributions. Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) Director Bradley Shipps has expressed an interest in joining LD&L.

Remaining 2022 meeting dates. September 23, November 18

Loeffel declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Kris Adams Wendt, Recorder