



Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee

Friday, January 25, 2019

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

WLA Office

4610 South Biltmore Lane, Suite 100, Madison, WI

MINUTES

Members present: Kathy Pletcher, Connie Meyer, Kris Adams Wendt, Mark Arend *remote*, Nick Dimassis, Bruce Gay, Heather Johnson *remote*, Paula Kiely, Kathy Klager, Pete Loeffel, Larry Oathout, Jim Ramsey, Vicki Teal Lovely *remote*, Steve Ohs *remote*, Scott Vrieze, Plumer Lovelace (WLA Executive Director), Steve Conway (DeWitt, Ross & Stevens) *remote*.

Members absent: Amy Birtell, Sherry Machones,

Guests: John Thompson (PLSR) *remote*, Kurt Kiefer (Dept. of Public Instruction), John DeBacher (DPI), Jaime Healy-Plotkin (AWSL/LLAW), Dan Jacobson (SCLS), Amanda Soelle (AJS Consulting)

Co-chair Pletcher called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. The agenda order was approved with the addition of "Funding for Public Library System Collective Data Backup and Digital Content Archive Solution" as item 8A.

Approval of minutes from the November 30, 2018 meeting. The minutes of the November 30, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously on a **motion from Klager seconded by Gay**.

Report of the WLA budget team. Pletcher and Meyer shared final copies of budget documents to be distributed at Library Legislative Day. They provided an overview of budget team activities working toward the goal of scheduling office meetings with all 16 members of Joint Finance Committee and key leadership prior to Library Legislative Day. The first marathon day of meetings was accomplished on January 8, with more to follow during the last week in January and first week in February in order to lay down background information prior to local librarians sharing their success stories on February 12. The addition of Recollection Wisconsin funding as a fifth contract was presented at a meeting with the Governor's budget team and has received lots of interest during the legislative meetings so far. A fruitful conversation with Department of Workforce Development (DWD) contacts regarding lessons learned from test trials of the Microsoft Academy product authorized for this biennium developed consensus that Lynda.com would be a better fit for public libraries. Rep. Felzkowski has been kept apprised of that conversation. Dimassis gave a shout out to Vicki Teal Lovely, as well as Wyatt Ditzler from the Beloit Public Library staff and Ben Miller from DLT for their critical assistance during the trial period.

Library Legislative Day (February 12, 2019). Dimassis and Ramsey reported on program and registration issues. Information folders will be distributed to each legislator in order to cut down on excess duplication of materials and confusion over leave-behind literature pieces. Last year's infographics piece will be updated. Ramsey will work with Wendt on coordinating and scheduling appointments once the first registration spreadsheets are ready to be shared on January 29. Organization of the registration table and materials distribution was discussed. Several Library Champion awards will be presented.

Legislator listening sessions in district. Klager shared a draft letter from LD&L to individual library directors providing overview of the value of hosting legislative listening sessions, and a sample customizable template that a library could use as an invitation. Discussion ensued. Meyer suggested the SRLAAW list to help get the word out to the local level. Wendt talked about WVLS organization of colleagues to attend listening sessions in the 12th Senate District and associated three assembly districts occurring January 25, 28 and 29.

DPI/DLT update. Kiefer reported on the Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) project. LAWDS will bring together public library staff with the staff of regional Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) and Wisconsin Job Centers, to facilitate more seamless support of job-seeking patrons, business owners and entrepreneurs. This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

In other news, the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018 (IMLS reauthorization) was signed into law on December 31. While the 2019 LSTA grant award has not been issued, Wisconsin should receive \$2,917,382 (an increase of \$37,661). DeBacher gave an update on LSTA funded collaborative technology, delivery, and inclusive services grant initiatives available to public library systems. DPI is engaged in dialogue with DOA regarding TEACH administrative rules and simplification of the process. Public library systems should be able to apply on behalf of member libraries.

PLSR update. Thompson thanked LD&L members for their collective feedback to version 7 of the PLSR report being drafted. The next meeting is February 8; there may be one more needed before the next draft is ready for release. Kiely characterized it as “a slow thoughtful process.” DeBacher reported that COLAND is planning to hold listening sessions in several locations in the state once the PLSR report is finalized, focusing on areas with lower feedback to the PLSR Steering Committee final survey of library directors. Their intent is not to alter or rewrite the report, but to gather public feedback to consider in providing input on the DPI’s implementation of the report. A brief summary of PLSR recommendations will be presented by COLAND members along with prompts for responses. DPI staff will assist with meeting logistics and notetaking.

Funding for Public Library System Collective Data Backup and Digital Content Archive Solution.

Lovely was assisted in this report and discussion by Dan Jacobson (SCLS). An informal work group made up of public library system IT directors and others with similar responsibilities began collaborative discussion following the annual Camp Tech-a-talk-a gathering. The main focus currently centers on common concerns regarding more cost effective backup/recovery security and archiving of essential operations data in a standardized way. Six library systems are so far committed to sharing a quarter of the startup cost for an initial multi-phased five-year project while seeking LSTA grant funding or TEACH dollars. This report was for information only at this time.

Meyer left the meeting at approximately 12:05 PM; Conway joined the meeting remotely at 12:20 PM.

Legislative Reference Bureau Library. Jaime Healy-Plotkin (representing both the WLA division Association of Special Librarians or AWSL and Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin or LLAW) shared concerns regarding attrition among Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) library staff. After an overview of the current situation was presented, discussion centered on proactive legislative relationship building and advocacy activities that could be employed to advantage.

Kiefer and DeBacher left the meeting at approximately 12:50.

Possible WLA conduit. Conway introduced Amanda Soelle from AJS Consulting LLC Association and Membership Services. Soelle distributed a printed overview of campaign giving in Wisconsin and addressed the pros and cons of WLA restarting a political conduit. A conduit is a political program that must be registered with the Wisconsin Ethics Commission. It allows an organization to permit individual members to contribute and authorize their individual conduit dollars to political candidates of their choice. A political contribution from a conduit member's account is determined by the individual conduit member. Contributions must be from a personal account. Corporate contributions are not permissible. Upon receiving authorization, a conduit administrator then makes individual campaign contributions in those members' names; they are deemed individual contributions and reported as such by candidates. Discussion ensued. It was recommended that Lovelace have a further conversation with Soelle about administrative costs for different scenarios and share the information with the WLA Board.

WLA conference, Oct. 8-10 Wisconsin Dells (deadline March 1) program ideas. It was suggested that, pending further exploration and conversation with the WLA Board, informing the membership about a potential WLA conduit could be timely. In the interests of time, in depth discussion was deferred to the March 22 agenda. Pletcher asked for committee members to forward additional ideas to her.

Announcements and other business. Machones provided a written Federal Legislative Advocate report in her absence. National Library Legislative Day is being split into two events this year, with the first event being an ALA invite only for strategic relationship building with our federal representatives on February 26, 2019. Machones is the only person invited to represent Wisconsin at this event. She is soliciting library success stories about the impact of LSTA funds at the local level. On January 14, the president signed into law the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking (FEBP) Act (H.R. 4174/S. 2046) which includes the pen, Public electronic and Necessary (OPEN) Government Data Act (Title II). The package passed Congress on Monday, December 31, 2018. This is great news for libraries and the public interest.

Future agenda item. It was noted that discussion of potential effects of trending automatic renewals as a feature of certain ILS products upon cost per circulation and cross county payments was not on this meeting agenda due to the addition of two guest presentations. The issue was raised at the November 30th meeting where Arend and Klager volunteered to research and report, with DeBacher was willing to assist. The Cross County Payments Working Group will be added to the March 22 agenda.

Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM on a **motion from Klager seconded by Wendt.**

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Adams Wendt, Recorder