



Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee

Friday, November 15, 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, Nick Dimassis *remote*, Bruce Gay, Heather Johnson, Kathy Klager, Pete Loeffel, Sherry Machones, Larry Oathout *remote*, Steve Ohs, Jim Ramsey, Plumer Lovelace (WLA Executive Director), Steve Conway *remote* (DeWitt LLP).

Members absent: Mark Arend, Amy Birtell, Paula Kiely, Vicki Teal Lovely

Guests: Martha Berninger (Dept. of Public Instruction), Shannon Schultz (DPI), Ben Miller (DPI), Dee Pettack *remote* (DPI), Jennifer Chamberlain (Monarch Library System)

Co-chair Pletcher called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The agenda order was approved with flexibility to accommodate Conway phoning in. Continuation of the September meeting's brainstorming session regarding messaging the continuing relevance of libraries was deferred until items needing Conway's input were finished.

Approval of minutes from the September 2019 meeting. The minutes of the September 27, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously on a **motion from Ohs seconded by Machones.**

Legislative update. Conway reported on legislative contacts and capitol goings-on. Lovelace reported that Senator Darling will receive her Library Champion plaque at the WLA Office on November 19.

Current Milwaukee Public Library legislative requests. In Kiely's absence, Conway reported that there is some hope that a workable pathway will be found to secure downtown directional signage to Milwaukee Public Library and the Court of Honor before the end of the current legislative session. There is zero interest in amending § 940.208 to add assault on any municipal employee to the description for charging as a felony.

Library Legislative Day. An ad hoc LLD registration work group met November 7 with WLA staff. Loeffel gave a progress report including the marketing plan timeline to solicit LLD attendance, the registration timeline, and revisions to the online registration form in order to aid appointments scheduling and coverage. Discussion ensued regarding speakers at the morning briefing program and continued exploration of new ideas for bringing library story video content to presentations in individual legislative offices. Dimassis will invite the Governor and State Superintendent of Public Instruction via their scheduling forms. Dimassis and Loeffel will work with Conway regarding additional briefing speakers. Meyer, Gay, Ramsey, Ohs, Dimassis, Chamberlain and Oathout volunteered to contribute 'take your library supporters to LLD via video' samples.

Conway disconnected from the meeting. There was a brief interlude during which the second part of the library relevancy messaging exercise continued. People need libraries...people use libraries...people need libraries because...your library is your everything place...were some identified themes.

County work group. There is a need to refresh the data regarding Act 420 cross county border “in and out” payments and update the spreadsheets used for rapid response to county board and legislator concerns. Chamberlain provided an update on Washington County concerns.

WAPL Conference deadline for proposals. Oathout volunteered to organize an LD&L program at the April 29-May 1 WAPL Conference. A panel discussing the topic of local and county funding was suggested.

Federal Relations Coordinator. Machones reported that the ALA “fly-in” for legislative advocacy in Washington, D.C. will be February 11, the same date as WLA Library Legislative Day. Invitations are issued to one attendee from each state. The 45th annual National Library Legislative Day will be held May 4-5, 2020, at the Georgetown Conference Center in Washington, D.C. Appropriations for IMLS are stuck in the U.S. Senate, with a short term resolution anticipated November 21. Macmillan Publishers Ltd’s drastic restriction of e-book sales to libraries has drawn librarian fury since it [announced the new e-book sales guidelines last July](#). For the first eight weeks after an e-book goes on the market, libraries can buy only one copy. Miller reported that the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) has been gathering data from all 50 states and its representatives have met with e-book publishers including McMillan. The controversy is likely to ramp into 2020.

DPI/DLT update. See DPI Update to LD&L 11.15.19 report linked [here](#). Miller walked the group through the [DPI PLSR Update to LD&L 11.15.19](#) slide deck. [Lowell Public Library](#) in Dodge Co. is closing.

Meeting dates for 2020. The following LD&L meeting schedule was approved for 2020: January 24, March 20, May 15, July 24, September 25, November 13 at the WLA Office in Madison.

Announcements and other business. Meyer mentioned BadgerNet/ATT outages have been occurring in OWLS territory and elsewhere. Engagement with legislators could follow if there’s a lack of satisfaction with answers received through the usual channels.

Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM on a **motion from Klager seconded by Meyer.**

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Adams Wendt, Recorder