



## Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee

Friday, November 30, 2018

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

WLA Office

4610 South Biltmore Lane, Suite 100, Madison, WI

### MINUTES

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

**Members absent:** Amy Birtell, Anita Weier

**Remote participation via GoToMeeting:** Lynn Huether for Amy Birtell, John Thompson (PLSR), Paula Kiely (PLSR)

**Guests:** Kurt Kiefer (Dept. of Public Instruction), John DeBacher (DPI), Ann Hanlon (Recollection WI), and Emily Pfotenhauer (Recollection WI).

Co-chair Pletcher called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The agenda order was approved without changes. Members introduced themselves around the table for the benefit of those attending remotely.

**Approval of minutes from the September 28 meeting.** After noting a correction from “Newline” to “Newsline” on page one, the minutes of the September 28, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously on a **motion from Gay seconded by Machones.**

**2019 WLA Legislative Policy Statement.** Pletcher asked for final edits to the statement draft previously circulated to committee members. The final draft was approved unanimously with page 2 formatting changes not affecting content on a **motion from Klager seconded by Arend.**

**Government Relations Advisor report.** Conway congratulated the committee on the conclusion of another productive legislative session. It is anticipated that WLA relationships with returning legislative leaders and library champions, together with a new governor who has been a familiar partner on library budget items and other issues, has us well-positioned for 2019-2020. Conway recommended continuing the Libraries Transform project for new legislators and will investigate whether photos can be taken at orientation day in early January so that finished posters can be delivered on Library Legislative Day. Continuing WLA Foundation support needs to be confirmed. The biennial budget process was outlined. Meetings with Joint Finance Committee (JFC) leaders and the Governor-Elect’s transition team will be scheduled. Klager, Wendt and the co-chairs will coordinate development and distribution details of a customizable form whereby librarians can invite legislators to hold January listening sessions at local libraries. JFC hearings will follow in March. Conway explained the value of having a WLA conduit, provided an overview of how conduits are organized and operated, and asked that the topic be placed on the January LD&L agenda.

Conway asked for a review of potential issues and projects for the 2019-2020 legislative session. The topic of potential statutory changes to the public library system funding formula as a result of the PLSR process was discussed. As a corollary, local library funding inequities are frequently related to levy limits and exploring whether municipalities might be incentivized to provide better library support by levy limit exemptions was also suggested. Arend, Klager, Lovely and Machones volunteered to form a working group to research and analyze this topic.

**Library Legislative Day (February 12, 2019).** The online registration form goes live on November 30. Ramsey has updated the tools used for managing registration and appointment scheduling. Governor-Elect Evers, who annually addressed LLD while State Superintendent, will be invited to speak along with library champions Representatives Loudenbeck and Felzkowski to address the budget process. LD&L members were encouraged to contact Brigitte Rupp Vacha at the WLA Office and volunteer to assist with registration and other duties on the day of the event. Dimassis, Conway, Ramsey and the co-chairs will work cooperatively on a program agenda.

**Letter in support of Common School fund to Legislative Study Committee.** Following discussion, there was consensus for sending a letter to legislators on the [Legislative Council Study Committee on the Investment and Use of the School Trust Funds](#) in support of the Common School fund and State Trust Fund Loan Program. Pletcher will work with Lovelace to communicate with committee members on behalf of WLA before their next meeting.

**Relationship building.** Besides organizing another round of Libraries Transform poster photos and creating a template for library invitation to legislators holding listening sessions, as previously mentioned, there was brief discussion of initiating contacts with new JFC members.

**Microsoft Academy update.** Lovelace and Lovely reported a FAQ document is in progress and Beloit Public Library will pilot a student “beta test” site prior to general rollout. Ben Miller from DPI/DLT is working on providing authorization and authentication for Beloit PL. Lakeshores Library System has agreed to temporarily host content. Estimated timeframe for general availability is February. Conway has set up a meeting with Rep. Felzkowski who secured the funds for this project during the last legislative session; he asked Lovelace to attend and summarize the challenges of this project. Felzkowski’s goal was to provide public libraries with the ability to serve citizens needing retraining in an easily accessible location. If this isn’t the right product for the purpose, then what can we recommend?

**Cross county payments working group.** Arend and Klager will research the potential effects of trending automatic renewals as a feature of certain ILS products upon cost per circulation and cross county payments. DeBacher is willing to assist. There will be a report at the January LD&L meeting.

**Federal Legislative Advocate report.** Machones explained there will be two separate ALA 2019 events involving visits to U.S. Senate and House members. In light of ALA’s Annual Conference, which will take place in Washington, D.C. on June 20-25, 2019, the next National Library Legislative Day will occur in 2020. An invitation only event will be held at the end of February for which Wisconsin expected to be designated as a “key state.” A webinar is being produced on working with the next Congress. Machones introduced a draft resolution from WLA to Wisconsin’s congressional delegation supporting reauthorization of the Museums and Library Services Act (MLSA) and “One Dollar Per Capita” campaign. The resolution was unanimously approved for recommendation to the WLA Board on a **motion by Oathout seconded by Vrieze.**

**Recollection Wisconsin project.** Vrieze introduced Ann Hanlon, head of Digital Collections and Initiatives at UW-Milwaukee and a member of the [Recollection Wisconsin](#) Governing Board, and WiLS Community Liaison and Service Specialist Emily Pfothenauer who manages Recollection Wisconsin. The collaborative initiative to digitize and share photographs, documents, artifacts and other historical resources in the collections of cultural heritage organizations across Wisconsin has been supported by various charitable foundations and (currently) through an LSTA grant since 2016. Its governing board is seeking long term sustainable funding now that the project has grown to be the seventh largest state-based operation of its kind in the U.S. After considerable discussion, committee consensus was to explore adding this service as a fifth library service contract. Conway will work with Vrieze and Kiefer to develop a proposal with Hanlon and Pfothenauer.

**DPI/DLT update.** DeBacher mentioned grants in amounts between \$10,000 and \$50,000 are now available through [Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries | Institute of Museum and Library Services - imls.gov](#). APP is a special initiative of the National Leadership Grants for Libraries Program. The goal of this initiative is to support projects that strengthen the ability of small and rural libraries and archives to serve their communities. IMLS invites applications that focus on the following topics: transforming school library practice, community memory and digital inclusion.

**PLSR update.** LD&L members received an advance copy of PLSR Recommendation Report draft #7 on the evening of November 28. It will be released December 3 to local library and library system directors along with links to a short background video and a response survey. Only one response will be accepted from each of Wisconsin's 381 public libraries and 16 public library systems by the December 7 deadline to facilitate review by the Steering Committee prior to their December 14 meeting. Steering intends to deliver the final report to the SSOP's desk by December 21. Ohs, Thompson and Kiely were seeking general feedback from LD&L and help identifying language that could be unclear to legislators or otherwise presented red flags from a legislative point of view. There was a brief period of discussion during which LD&L members expressed concerns and asked questions based on their first impressions of the latest report version. Co-chairs Pletcher and Meyer solicited additional feedback from LD&L members by December 4 to be compiled into a report and relayed to the PLSR Steering Committee.

**Review of LD&L Committee appointments and renewals.** Pletcher announced that all current members of LD&L had agreed to return in 2019 except Weier. Kiely has volunteered to join the committee.

**Announcements and other business.** Dates for 2019 LD&L meetings will be January 25, March 22, May 17, July 26, September 27 and November 15.

**Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM on a **motion from Klager seconded by Meyer.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Adams Wendt, Recorder