

Minutes

SC Assn of Public Library Administrators /July 17, 2009 / SC State Library, Columbia, SC

Present:

Members: Cynthia Bledsoe, Paul Brown, Frank Bruno, Colleen Carney, J. Drusilla Carter, Robert Harden, Beverly James, Dan MacNeill, Yolanda McCormick, Ray McBride, Dwight McInvaill, Sarah McMaster, Beth McNeer, Donna Osborne, Paula Paul, Amy Schofield, Kristen Setzler Simensen, Ann Szypulski, Wlodek Zaryczny

SCSL: David Goble, Deborah Hotchkiss, Denise Lyons, Catherine Buck Morgan, Laura Sponhour

Guests: Vickie Tyner, Susan Watkins, Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board

Visitor Presentation/ Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board

Vickie Tyner from the Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board presented strategies and plans for cooperating with libraries to provide assistance to job seekers. Partnerships have been formed with the Chesterfield and Florence library systems, and include providing libraries with software and holding workshops. Copies of partnership agreements were distributed. Both Ray McBride and Drusilla Carter reported positive experiences.

SC LENDS Consortium Update / Laura Sponhour

Laura Sponhour presented an update on this project. The original mission to create an open source ILS was broadened to forming a consortium, with its first organized meeting held in December 2008. Stipulations include:

- After six months all items circulate to consortium libraries
- An advisory committee was formed, each member casts one vote
- Working groups (cataloging, circulation, systems administration, training, etc.) were formed, with as many members as libraries could support

Issues with the three libraries that went live in May 2009 included problems with hardware and network slowdowns. Better reporting will aid in determining solutions for the slowdowns.

Benefits of this system are as follows:

- Ownership of data
- No ILL paperwork
- Savings from cessation of license agreements
- Savings on consortia items (such as book jackets)
- Eventual joint collection development
- Physical borrowing privileges
- Program sends nearest item

Discussion followed on various concerns and related issues including integrating or dismantling the Polaris Palmetto Library Consortium and the creation of a state-wide library card.

Discus / Ruth Thompson

Ruth Thompson announced that a new professionally produced brochure providing an overview of Discus products had been funded by a vendor. Additional brochures would be available on a limited basis. A PDF will be placed on the Discus website.

State Library Report / David Goble

David Goble reported that the Board of Economic Advisors announced a likely 4% cut in August.

A decision was made to cease funding for School Rooms because of low usage and high cost. Funds from this might be directed toward workforce development databases for Discus.

The State Library will be hiring two positions: a library manager for the talking books program and an Information Strategies Director, who may oversee a new initiative to create a teaching library utilizing the public service division of the State Library.

Title changes: Laura Sponhour is now the “Innovations Manager” and Amy Duernberger is the “Electronic Resources Librarian.”

A possible initiative to convert the public functioning of the State Library into a teaching library was discussed. Dwight McInvaill made a motion that APLA endorse the concept of this endeavor, which was seconded by Ray McBride. After lengthy discussion, the motion was tabled. Mr. McInvaill suggested a letter of support should be written by APLA for any grant related to this project.

Creating a searchable mechanism for valuable state agency data sets was also discussed as a possible project.

Mr. Goble strongly suggested that the libraries be tied to reading in the next election.

The BTOP (Broadband Technology Opportunities Program) was discussed. The strongest possibility for libraries is the Public Computer Center portion of this grant. Three rounds of funding will be made available. Deborah Hotchkiss advised applicants to allow a lot of time for data input. The State Library will be applying. Other libraries may also apply. Ms. Hotchkiss stated that overlap should not be an issue.

Mr. Goble stated that at this point the State Library was unsure about the level of funding from state stabilization funds (stimulus money), or how it would be distributed. These funds will probably arrive late in the budget years. Directors were advised to budget for \$1/per capita in state aid.

Minutes

Minutes from the May Retreat were approved with a motion from Dwight McInvaill, seconded by Frank Bruno.

Treasurer's Report

Ray McBride reported that bills up until June 30 were up to date. The bank balance was \$5,163.46.

Committee Reports

Legislative:

The continuation of Jim Johnson's contract was discussed. Dwight McInvaill reported that Mr. Johnson will be sending reports to APLA on his activities, and stated his support for rehiring Mr. Johnson, which he saw as particularly important during the current recession. Concerns were raised regarding APLA's ability to afford Mr. Johnson's services, Mr. Johnson's possible representation of individual counties, and APLA's use of funds for lobbying. After lengthy discussion, a successful motion was made by Sarah McMaster to empower Ray McBride to discuss these issues with Jim Johnson, explaining the uncertainty of APLA's financial situation. The issue will be reconsidered at APLA's September meeting. Dwight McInvaill seconded the motion, which was carried. Kristen Simensen suggested the creation of an APLA fundraising committee.

New Business

Ray McBride offered to provide refreshments for APLA meetings during his tenure as president.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Schofield , Secretary.