

SRLAAW Minutes -- 11 May, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 pm by the Chair. Thereafter, it was determined that a quorum was present. Introductions were offered around the table.

There was a motion (and a second) to approve the meeting agenda. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

There was a motion (and a second) to approve the previous meeting minutes. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

The treasurer presented a report, and suggested that a motion be made to approve the collection of annual dues. Following this, a motion was made (and seconded) to approve the collection of dues. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

An agreement for lobbying services was introduced. The committee that drafted the agreement was thanked for their work. It was described that WLA would invoice systems for appropriate shares of the contract. In response to feedback, there would be an evaluation of the lobbyists' effectiveness that would be collected in the 2nd quarter of each year. SRLAAW would have the right to terminate the agreement with cause.

There was discussion. One concern was that the agreement could limit when SRLAAW could pull out if the language is tied directly to the legislative calendar. It was asked if the contract could be described. The WLA President stepped-in and described the contract language as common, basic and flexible. The WLA President offered to furnish a copy to anyone who is interested. The discussion then shifted to education and advocacy issues related to lobbying, and to the importance of any lobbying strategy being tied into any greater statewide strategies going on.

The Chair proposed tabling a vote until the requested documentation could be supplied and reviewed, and the requested clarifications could be made to the agreement language. The Chair's proposition was accepted by consensus.

In response to a request, SRLAAW granted permission for information about the lobbying initiative to be provided at an upcoming WLA meeting.

It was discussed that resource library directors mostly support splitting a system share of the contract with Dewitt Ross & Stevens. SRLAAW (WLA) can take care of splitting out whatever sub-share each system/resource library director agree to.

System directors were asked by the Chair if any would not be able to participate. None indicated that was the case.

The Chair then reiterated that the issue should be tabled until the Quarter 3 meeting of SRLAAW. A motion was made (and seconded) to table the issue until the Quarter 3 meeting of SRLAAW. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

An update was given in regard to National Library Legislative Day. The group was thanked for the collective support for sending a representative.

An LD&L update was given. Current legislative goals for the upcoming year were articulated; including library champion posters, candidate forums, and general relationship building. Steve Conway from Dewitt Ross & Stevens spoke about legislative relationship building opportunities, and the possibility of a campaign to pursue an increase in state aids for library systems. Steve is working with a number of others to gather information and prepare a narrative. The group was also asked for ideas.

The group felt that any strategy must be realistic and involve educating the public as well as legislators.

The following additional reports were given and accepted by SRLAAW:

- Public Library System Redesign Project;
- Division for Libraries and Technology;
- WiLS;
- Wisconsin Public Library Consortium;
- Wisconsin Library Association;
- Council on Library and Network Development.

It was suggested that the Quarter 3 meeting be moved to coincide with the WLA fundraiser.

There was a motion (and a second) to adjourn the meeting. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
-Steve Ohs, Lakeshores Library System