

MINUTES
System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin
11 May 2005
WLA Offices, Madison Wisconsin

1. Call to Order

Chair Jessica MacPhail called the meeting to order at 11:07 am.

In attendance were:

Jim Trojanowski (NWLS); Mark Arend (Winnefox; proxy for Oshkosh PL); Sandy Robbers (IFLS); Ruth Ann Montgomery (ALS); Jeff Gilderson-Duwe (Brown County); Bernie Bellin (LLS); Tom Hennen (WCFLS); Jim Gingery (MCFLS); David Weinhold (ESLS); Walter Burkhalter (MWFLS); Mike Cross (DLTCL); Bob Bocher (DLTCL); Alan Engelbert (MCLS and Manitowoc PL); Robert Hafeman (MCLS); Jessica MacPhail (Racine); Peter Hamon (SCLS); Sally Drew (DTLCL); Terry Dawson (Appleton); Rick Krumweide (OWLS); David Polodna (WRLS); Sharon Winkle (Mead PL, Sheboygan); Heather Eldred (WVLS); and Kathy Schneider (WILS).

2. Quorum determination

Chair determined a quorum of the membership was in attendance.

3. Introductions

Members introduced themselves.

4. Changes to the agenda

5. Approval of the minutes for the November 19, 2004, meeting

Motion by Weinhold, second by Polodna to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2004, meeting; carried.

Approval of the minutes for the February 7, 2005, meeting

Motion by Weinhold, second by Polodna to approve the minutes of the February 7 2005 meeting; carried.

6. Treasurer's report

Motion by Eldred, second by Bellin to approve the Treasurer's report; carried.

7. OCLC Group Services

Hamon distributed handout "Implementing OCLC Group Services in Wisconsin;" discussed goal of negotiating a three year group contract. Hamon and Schneider answered questions about how group services would be used.

8. Statutory language for county reimbursements to public libraries

Krumwiede pointed out problems with county reimbursement to public libraries being based on cost per circulation. He proposed that SRLAAW work with the Division to get the reimbursement formula capped at three times the most recent statewide average public library cost per circulation. Krumwiede distributed a table listing Wisconsin public libraries whose cost per circulation exceeded twice and three times the statewide average in 2004. Discussion followed.

Motion by Krumwiede, seconded by Hennen to ask the Division to study the problem of libraries with 2004 cost per circulation greater than two or three times the statewide average; carried.

9. WLA Foundation's Campaign for Wisconsin's Libraries

Krumwiede discussed expansion of the foundation's activities. Foundation board inquiries revealed little awareness of the organization; the board is now supporting a new initiative to develop a statewide promotional and advocacy campaign in support of all types of library; kick-off of the campaign is planned for WLA 2005 conference. Foundation fundraising is underway in support of the initiative. Krumwiede distributed a fundraising brochure for the "Campaign for Wisconsin's Libraries."

10. Statewide Delivery Service Costs

Weinhold distributed handout "Public Library System Statewide Delivery Cost 2005." Weinhold said that Delivery Service Advisory Council would meet May 24 and that systems would likely see a average net delivery cost increase of 7% (10% increase minus LSTA subsidy). Hamon stated increases driven by gasoline budget increase from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

11. MCFLS

Gingery reported on MCFLS efforts to persuade four libraries that have not yet signed system agreements to stay in the system. Gingery reported on his efforts to publicize system benefits to all members (minimal chargebacks; reciprocal borrowing payments; access to collections of all members). Gingery said citizens seem to favor system membership and Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel has come out in favor of keeping system together; and that he thinks the four libraries will ultimately sign membership agreements.

12. Virtual Reference

Drew reported that the virtual references "Ask Wisconsin" and 24/7 have merged and will be managed by OCLC, which has submitted a quote for 2006 statewide service at a cost of \$66,000. A proposal to support this cost from federal grant dollars is being referred to the state's LSTA Advisory Council. Drew said that participant libraries would pay a \$350 profiling fee plus a share of a \$3,500 base fee per "group." Individual library costs may range from \$400 - \$1,000. Group definition and other details are yet to be worked out. Schneider projected training to take place during October or November, 2005 in order to begin service in January, 2006.

13. DPI reports

Library system size study –

Cross reported on study carried out by U.W.-Madison SLIS to examine issues linked to the size and numbers of Wisconsin public library systems. The study report does not recommend an optimal system size but finds high overall satisfaction with system services (91%) and that some respondents see overly large system areas to be a problem. Report recommendations include considering merger of Kenosha and Arrowhead systems and splitting of Southwest system among two other systems.

BadgerNet update –

Bocher reported that a new BadgerNet contract had been signed with SBC; that bandwidth needs and migration dates were being determined; that monthly cost figures were pending from the state Department of Administration; and that a migrations schedule would be out in June or July.

State budget update –

Cross reported that the legislature's Joint Finance Committee was considering the budget and that DPI items would probably be taken up in May or June.

Library task force bills –

Cross reported that the bills are being drafted; that Rep. Freese and Sen. Leibham have committed to introduce them, but that he didn't know when they would be introduced.

Shared system study –

Bocher reported that an RFP for conducting a study on the economics of shared automated systems had been issued with response deadline of May 20. Vendor selection to be completed by late June with findings by December 2005 or January 2006.

14. ALA Legislative Day update

Tabled due to absence of Jennings.

15. Date and location of next meeting – August 5, 2005 at Marathon County Library

16. Other business

a. State Budget: Prospects in Joint Finance Committee

Hennen distributed report detailing WLA lobbyist's vote counting on system funding provisions of state budget and a table listing contact information for WLA members who are constituents of Joint Finance Committee members. Hennen pushed SRLAAW members in Joint Finance Committee member districts to mobilize WLA members and other library supporters to contact these legislators to vote for the governor's budget proposal.

b. Public Library Records Retention

Cross reported that a group is meeting to establish a model schedule for public library records retention in Wisconsin and distributed a handout "Public Library Records Retention Group Meets."

c. 2004 Wisconsin Public Library Statistics

Cross reported information from Al Zimmerman that preliminary data from 2004 indicates circulation, visits, reference transactions, and children's program attendance are all up by more than 3.5% over 2003. Further findings include local and county funding up by approximately 2%; total library staff flat with a slight decrease in professional staff; and ILL up by 15 – 20%.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Submitted by
Gilderson-Duwe