

System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) Q2 2022 Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Time: 3:30 PM

Location: WAPL Conference, The Ingleside Hotel, Woodlands AB Room, Pewaukee, WI

Recorder: Clairellyn Sommersmith

1. **Call to Order:** Vreeke called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. **Attendance**

Present: Tracy Vreeke, Chair (NFLS), Steve Hesel, Vice Chair (MCFLS), Kristen Anderson, Treasurer (WRLS), Barbara Brattain (Kenosha), Garrett Erickson (Sheboygan PL), Bruce Gay (Waukesha PL), Shanneon Grant (La Crosse PL), Jeffery Gilderson-Duwe (Winnefox), Riti Grover (Monarch), Sue Heskin (Superior PL), Joan Johnson (Milwaukee PL), Karol Kennedy (Bridges), David Kranz (SWLS), Jessie Lee-Jones (Platteville PL), Sherry Machones (NWLS), Steve Ohs (LLS), Steve Platteter (ALS), Rebecca Scherer (MCLS), Bradley Shipps (OWLS), Clairellyn Sommersmith (Winnefox), John Thompson (IFLS), Martha Van Pelt (SCLS), Angela Zimmermann (Racine PL)

Affiliated Organizations/Guests: Mark Jochem (SCLS/LAWDS), Laura Sauser (WLA), Andi Coffin (WiLS), Ben Miller (DPI), Jennifer Chamberlain (WiLS), Steve Conway

Absent: Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer (LEMPPL), Bryan McCormack (Hedberg PL), Greg Mickells (Madison PL), Leah Giordano (Marathon County Library)

3. **Proxy Designations:** Sherry Machones for Marla Sepnafski (WVLS). Emily Brown (Brown County Library) for Sara Sugden (Brown County Library), Bradley Shipps for Colleen Rortvedt (Appleton PL)

4. **Introduction/Welcome Guests** (Vreeke)
Vreeke introduced Steve Conway

5. **Approval of the Agenda** (Vreeke)

Vreeke made a motion to modify the agenda to include agenda #13 under #15

1 – Gilderson-Duwe

2 – Thompson

Motion carried

6. **Approval of the Minutes from February 7, 2022**

Motion to approve the agenda

1 – Thompson

2 – Gilderson-Duwe

Motion carried

7. **WLA Advocacy Report** (Steve Conway)

Steve spoke to the group about the success of the last budget session and asked for direction from SRLAAW about what numerical ask that should be pursued in the next session. Conway saw two options: an incremental ask or a big ask. With a number in mind, Conway would then work with LD&L in putting the messaging in place, which will include stories about how the last increase made a significant difference in the services systems were able to provide.

Conway confirmed that this next budget session should secure system funding's base at the level seen in the 2022-2023 budget cycle. This will anchor the story of a need for stability and to be transparent that any grant funding from the federal government was one-timing money. With the systems funding currently close to the funding level they were at before the 2011-2012 budget cut there was consensus at the meeting to work on a "big" ask. The system funding formula redistribution will not take place until the 2025-2027 budget cycle.

Some suggested projects that could be funded with additional funding: digital collection, cybersecurity and network projects, Recollection Wisconsin. Conway did predict there may be need to play defense on questions of intellectual freedom at libraries. Steps are also being made to secure another champion on the finance committee.

8. **LD&L Report**

Legislative poster project is continuing. The WLA board empowered the LD&L to form a subcommittee to address issues with intellectual freedom and book challenges.

Gay stated we need to provide LD&L and Steve Conway with hard numbers to ask for in the budget cycle.

Thompson made a motion to ask for a total \$6 million increase in the next two-year budget cycle: \$3.5 the first year and \$2.5 the second year.

1 – Thompson

2 – Machones

Motion carried

9. **Treasurer's Report** (Anderson)

Anderson summarized the written treasurer's report.

10. **2023 SRLAAW Membership Fees** (Van Pelt)

Van Pelt made a motion to suspend the SRLAAW dues for this year

1 – Van Pelt

2 – Thompson

Motion carried

Tracy confirmed that the advocacy fee would continue to be a tenth of 1% of the system aid received by each system.

11. Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) Project (Jochem)

Jochem confirmed that systems should be recording trainings and activities in the 2022 spreadsheet report. If you need access to the spreadsheet, contact Martha. SHRM is organizing volunteers in libraries to provide one on one job seeking support. LAWDS has two programs at WAPL.

12. Library Staff Salary & Wage Study Proposal (Hesser)

With LSTA funding, the DPI will be pursuing a staff salary survey; Southwest Library will serve as fiscal agent and program lead.

Motion: SRLAAW will adopt this collaborative project

1 – Gay

2 – Johnson

Motion carried

Motion: A workgroup will be created under SRLAAW to helm this project

1 – Grover

2 – Hesser

Motion carried

Parties interested in serving on the workgroup should email Vreeke.

13. Affiliated Organization Reports:

- a. Recollection Wisconsin – report provided in advance; Coffin presented. Recollection Wisconsin will be sending a survey to content partners. Evaluation is needed as services will be reduced due to budget constraints. Revamping the digital readiness toolkits, which will be available next month.
- b. DPI – report provided in advance; Miller presented. WISEgrants “pain is mostly over,” with LSTA and ARPA grants awarded. DPI is already moving forward with the next LSTA cycle, funding of which will be available starting July 1. Currently in the process of garnering feedback on the DPI’s 5 year plan.
- c. WILS - report provided in advance, Chamberlain presented. Encourages libraries to apply for the Ideas to Actions grants.
- d. WPLC- report provided in advance.
- e. WLA - report provided in advance; Sauser presented. Gratitude to all 211 participants of the 2022 WAPL Conference. WLA is aware of the threats to intellectual freedom at libraries and projects resources on their website. WLA is also working on their vision statement.
- f. COLAND – report provided in advance.

14. Discussion:

First Amendment Audits and Similar Challenges Facing Libraries

Joan Johnson shared Milwaukee’s recent experience with a first amendment audit, which resulted in a change of filming policy at the library. Johnson will email SRLAAW her statement

about the change in procedures she emailed to staff following the incident. Anderson shared a small library in her system and also had a first amendment audit.

Performance and Bonus Pay

Sommersmith asked about what libraries and systems were offering to staff regarding performance/bonus pay; there was discussion.

15. Member Roundtable

Gilderson-Duwe 's board passed a resolution reaffirming the ALA's Freedom to Read and Intellectual Freedom statements

Gay invited the group to Waukesha Public Library's Open House on May 12

Shipps invited the group to OWLS' Open House on Wednesday May 25

16. Next Meeting: Held hopefully in person in Wausau. Details will be sent out prior to the meeting

17. Adjournment by Consensus: 5:36pm