

MINUTES
System and Resource Library Administrators' Association of Wisconsin
Best Western Plus Inn on the Park, Madison WI
Monday, February 13, 2012; 1:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Chair David Weinhold called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Quorum Determination / Introductions

Present: Martha Berninger, Bob Bocher, John DeBacher, Terrie Howe, Kurt Kiefer, Tessa Michaelson Schmidt (DPI); David Weinhold (Eastern Shores Library System); John Thompson (Indianhead Federated Library System); Doug Baker (Kenosha Public Library); Kristen Hewitt (Lakeshores Library System); Carol Froistad (Madison Public Library); Becky Petersen (Manitowoc-Calumet Library System); Cherilyn Stewart (Manitowoc Public Library); Ralph Illick (Marathon County Public Library); Steven Platteter (Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System); Jim Gingery (Milwaukee County Federated Library System); Paula Kiely (Milwaukee Public Library); Jim Trojanowski (Northern Waters Library System); Jeff Gilderson-Duwe (Oshkosh Public Library/Winnefox Library System); Rick Krumwiede (Outagamie-Waupaca Library System); Jessica MacPhail (Racine Public Library); Martha Van Pelt (South Central Library System); Tom Hennen (Waukesha County Federated Library System); Kristen Anderson (Winding Rivers Library System); Mark Arend (Winnefox Library System); Sara Gold (WiLS); and Joshua Klingbeil, Marla Sepnafski (Wisconsin Valley Library Service).

Changes / Additions to the Agenda

Additions to the Agenda: "LSTA Public Library Director Orientation Grant (Trojanowski)" and "Election of Officers (Weinhold)".

Approval of the Minutes from November 1, 2011 Meeting

Hennen/Thompson motioned to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report (Anderson)

The February 2012 Treasurer's Report distributed to members showed a fund balance of \$1,416.83 at the end of 2011.

DUES: Weinhold requested 2012 dues be \$50.00 per member to cover SRLAAW expenses and partial funding for the WPLC Wisconsin User/Non-User Survey.

SELECTION OF NLLD DELEGATE: Weinhold mentioned that no one from SRLAAW had yet volunteered to attend National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) in Washington, D.C. on April 23-24, and that if anyone was interested to contact him. *Arend / MacPhail moved approval of a \$1,000 stipend for a SRLAAW member to attend the NLLD. Motion passed.*

Weinhold mentioned that if more than one person volunteers to attend, a method of determining the delegate will need to be established.

Van Pelt questioned how SRLAAW's issues at the national level are determined since SRLAAW won't have an opportunity for discussion prior to the event. Trojanowski replied that the Wisconsin delegation largely follows the national agenda, and that the format for the NLLD briefing and visits is very similar to that of WLA's library legislative day event.

SRLAAW E-Mail List Changeover

Weinhold announced that the Lakeshores Library System has the new email list up and running, and that a notice about the new list was sent to members. He indicated that information on the Appleton server will be removed eventually and encouraged members to change the SRLAAW email address in their address books sometime soon. He also mentioned that the new list will include retirees and other affiliates from the former list.

Krumwiede commented that when posting to the list it might be helpful to include "SRLAAW" in the subject line of the email to help with filtering and moving emails directly into folders.

(It was agreed to delay the next agenda topic - Statewide Integrated Library System / Statewide Library Card / One State, One ILS - until the arrival of Kurt Kiefer.)

Liability Insurance for System Boards and Directors (Van Pelt)

Van Pelt questioned the value of liability insurance for system boards and directors considering the prohibitive cost. Furthermore she questioned whether or not the system board would be protected through their member counties in the event the system experienced a lawsuit.

Conversations with some systems and DLTC indicated no concrete answer to this. While some systems carry liability insurance for system boards and directors, many do not. Trojanowski indicated that NWLS once had this insurance, dropped it, and then picked it up again. After receiving contrary advice, he decided the prudent thing to do was to have it. Several system directors went on to say they carry this insurance on behalf of their board members and director, and that they considered it worthwhile. Also, DeBacher mentioned a litigation issue that occurred in a system in which system board members were not covered by their member counties.

Library District Legislative Proposal (Baker)

The joint committee of WLA and SRLAAW revised the "Wisconsin Library Association's Public Library District Legislation Proposal" to address the concerns expressed during the November 2011 SRLAAW meeting, and subsequently expressed by WLA's Wisconsin Small Libraries Roundtable (WISLR).

He then summarized the proposal revisions that were emailed to SRLAAW members prior to the meeting.

Some asked where this proposal goes from here. Baker responded that a clean copy of the proposal will be shared on the WLA's web site; the proposal will go prime time at Library Legislative Day with a one-page informational piece available to share with legislators; and, that hopefully tomorrow's legislative visits will flush out a legislator interested in drafting a bill.

Thompson indicated that WISL had reviewed the amended document. Baker mentioned that WLA's Library Development and Legislative Committee had also reviewed it. Weinhold asked if the League of Wisconsin Municipalities had seen this proposal. Baker responded that it would be shared with them once it appears on the WLA website.

Gilderson-Duwe / Trojanowski motioned to approve the amended Public Library District Legislation Proposal as written. Motion passed.

Public Library Director Orientation Grant (Trojanowski)

Trojanowski mentioned that he recently received notification that the grant was funded, but that the short time frame (of 3 months) in which to complete the project was a concern. After conferring with DLTC and others involved in the project, the decision was made to delay project implementation from a date/time around/during the WAPL Conference to a date in September or October. He also said that project coordinators have been gathering information from various groups/consultants in preparation for the event, and that SRLAAW members may be contacted for their input as well.

Other Legislative Proposals

Chapter 43 Clean-Up: DeBacher - the draft language will become bill soon. The bill will change the names of the "Reference and Loan Library" to "Resources for Libraries and Lifelong Learning," and the "Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning" to "Division for Libraries and Technology;" and corrects a discrepancy in the "same services" provision related to system membership eligibility.

WiscNet: Bocher – There was a Senate hearing about three weeks ago and Dawson (LD&L), Morell, Bolthouse testified. Also, there will be an Assembly hearing on the WiscNet bill will this Thursday at which Strand, Bocher and some school reps plan to testify. An update on the status of the bill will be shared in the next few weeks.

Hennen asked for a single message about WiscNet to share with legislators. Bocher responded that the single message should be that more time is needed beyond the current statutory deadline of July 1, 2013 for WiscNet to implement changes to its government structure and in its by-laws, and divest itself from the UW – especially since the Legislative Audit Bureau findings were not due until January 2013.

Baker said that even with a single message, the bill is a tough sell as no one wants to take the time to understand the complexities of it. Klingbeil agreed with Baker and then mentioned that he created a one-sheet informational Q&A poster for WVLS to share during their visits with legislators. Derived from FAQs on the WiscNet website, he hoped the Q&A poster would help simplify the WiscNet message and subsequent conversations with any interested parties or stakeholders. Following distribution of the poster with members, the suggestion was made to have extra copies available for the next day's Library Legislative Day event. Weinhold mentioned he would make arrangements with WLA staff to get that done. Van Pelt announced she was the WLA rep on the BCCB (Building Community Capacity to Broadband) group referenced in Klingbeil's poster, and to contact her if more information was needed.

Alternative County Library Tax Exemption: Weinhold – Sponsored by three representatives and one senator, this proposal got resurrected in the Ozaukee County area. Similar to the bill introduced a few years ago, Assembly Bill 543 provides for an alternative method to calculate the exemption from the county library tax. This iteration of the bill says that if a library doesn't meet the exemption currently in the law (which is to examine local library tax rate against the county library tax rate), the alternative would be to use the three-year average to determine exemption.

DeBacher said that DPI's Budget analyst found this bill to be very similar to previous iterations. However, the current language is a little awkward as it uses MOE – which is no longer a system membership requirement – to determine exemption, and requires a history of funding meaning it cannot be used for a new library. Another provision that led to DLTCL not outright opposing the bill is that a County Board of Supervisors has to authorize this method of exemption.

Weinhold observed that while the bill has been introduced in the Assembly, there is a very short window to get it through both houses in this session.

Other Legislative Issues: DeBacher - AB224 amends language regarding the transfer of library bequests/donations to a foundation whose purpose is to benefit the library to now include 501c3 foundations and community foundations. Regardless of where funds go, any intent of the bequest or gift needs to be acknowledged. Also, AB438, which has to do with certification and licensing, now includes DPI as it relates to the application of military experience toward library certification.

8. Statewide Integrated Library System / Statewide Library Card / One State, One ILS (MacPhail)

During the discussion on this topic at the last WPLC meeting, it was suggested this discussion continue at the SRLAAW meeting. MacPhail commented that the COLAND goal to have one library/one card has stalled and

doesn't expect it to get momentum. She suggested that the goal be changed to one card/any library or one card/one integrated library system; that people with an interest in talking more about this issue form a committee, and take that interest back to COLAND; and that small libraries be included in the discussion, not just SRLAAW members.

Gingery - Reviewed the "State ILS – Further Thoughts" handout shared prior to the SRLAAW meeting, and wondered "What are we really trying to fix?" He stated that circulation outside their local ILS was minimal, and expressed concerns about costs to migrate to a new system, the loss of functionality, etc.

Gilderson-Duwe - The handout referenced by Gingery, and put together by Winnefox Technology Coordinator Karen Boehning, Mark Arendt and himself, lists questions they would like addressed and proposes an LSTA-funded study to find answers.

Trojanowski - Until we know more about what a statewide ILS project might mean, we don't know that it would be more expensive. He advocated for learning more about it before making decisions. And, he agreed with MacPhail, reaffirming that change is coming whether we like or not, that we need to be proactive to shape that change rather than have change just happen to us, and that a lot of good ideas exist beyond SRLAAW and all libraries should have an opportunity for input.

Hennen – Could the State Superintendent award a \$70,000 no-bid contract to WiLS to do the study? Kiefer responded that would be problematic; and Bocher further explained that to avoid a state procurement process, DLTCL would likely offer a grant to a system and have the system contract with a third party to do the study. Bocher commented that the ILS discussion is really part of the larger discussion about updating Chapter 43 and funding/responsibilities of public library systems. He further suggested that there may be a way, from a legislative perspective, to move forward with this, and that DLTCL is very much interested in having a conversation with folks who have like interests to seek answers.

Stewart – The process needs to start. She suggested we look at business models rather than traditional library models for inspiration and ideas.

Gilderson-Duwe – Winnefox customers are learning one catalog and receiving more than 90% of what they request from the 5-county system. He too questioned what it is that we are trying to fix. And, while he agreed that the conversation needs to start, he wants to see data, rather than assertion of opinion.

MacPhail – Customers are already learning more than one catalog – examples include Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and the local ILS which changes with each upgrade.

Weinhold – Requested that the focus of discussion be on the process for investigation rather than the merits of a statewide ILS.

When asked who did the previous study, Bocher responded that Charles McClure and Bill Bowen (University of Texas) did it. Hennen suggested "big guns" do the study rather than an internal candidate.

Van Pelt –Interested in pursuing information about reducing/changing/right-sizing systems, and/or more sharing/consolidation across systems. She commented that legislators don't understand an ILS (ILS is too small a thing) but that they do understand systems, and suggested that the discussion stay on a higher level and be part of DLTCL's Task Force charge.

Weinhold also wondered if this issue shouldn't be part of the larger discussion.

MacPhail - Wants to keep the discussion on the table. She questioned, if not the statewide library card experiment, what's the next step? The discussion need not be exclusively about a statewide ILS.

Krumwiede – Basically people have access to any library in the area right now. Rather than libraries deciding this matter, perhaps the public should be surveyed to determine the need for this.

Kiely – Sees two goals – one about public satisfaction and libraries providing improved service, and the other about funding and responding to/preparing for dramatic reductions in system funding. What is the real goal?

Trojanowski – The two goals – customer service and funding – need not be mutually exclusive.

DeBacher – He was at the summit and facilitated the group which raised the one library/one card concept. He pointed out that initially the concept was more about an advocacy/branding tool which had a participatory element to it, but once voted on, that the concept took on a life of its own. Additional comments: Whether a statewide library card works in Wisconsin as it does in other states is uncertain; a statewide library card may involve other types of libraries, mechanisms and gateways, and there is no structure in place for how libraries might participate; library establishment in this state is done by municipalities; the “same services” law is really more related to what is available in the local library; he wonders how ILS sharing mechanism within consortiums get posed, and if local municipal libraries are aggregating their authority over their collections, and use of their collections; and, he has concerns about an undesired collateral consequences down the road as a result of these rules.

Kiefer – The one ILS discussion could be approached in a fashion similar to that of the recent e-book summit. He further suggested that even if we want to pursue a formal study, we need to be crystal clear about what we want to study. He then asked SRLAAW to consider a proposal to get a small work group together to hash through the one ILS concept, flush out ideas from broad groups of people, and clarify a proposal of what we think we mean by this. That proposal could then move on to other groups to decide whether or not to do a study. It intersects nicely with the Task Force discussion.

Hennen / Trojanowski moved approval to recommend to COLAND that a workgroup be established to clarify the scope of a state-wide ILS study. It was noted that this workgroup would work parallel with the Legislative Task Force which will be reviewing size/responsibilities of public library systems. Thompson suggested that SRLAAW impress upon COLAND that sufficient representation from a broad cross-section of stakeholders be part of the workgroup and that the workgroup provide for public input (i.e. library community). ***Motion carried.***

DLTCL Library Legislative Review Task Force

Kiefer – DLTCL is soliciting interest, rounding up people, and has a target to get this project moving by May.

DeBacher - Is reviewing nominations to make sure the broadest cross-section of stakeholders is involved. One possibility for carrying out the charge to the new Legislative Task Force would be to parallel the 2002 Legislative Task Force process. Previously, DLTCL/small work groups collaborated to prepare issue papers which provided background information, current concerns and potential options. Further discussions then flushed out recommendations for legislation action. The intent is to refresh/update statutory language to make public library systems and their services more relevant.

Kiefer – Firmly believes that we make our future or it will be made for us, that this is our opportunity to be thinking forward, and that libraries/systems have opportunities to make things better – with respect to services and funding - than they are today.

Wisconsin User/Non-User Survey

Weinhold mentioned that WPLC should have survey results later on this spring.

Reports from Affiliated Members

WiLS –Gold mentioned that the draft strategic plan for WiLS was approved by the board; work continues on the virtual reference project; as of July 1st, WiLS will no longer be doing invoicing/billing for OCLC; WiLS plans to more actively promote cooperative services, conferences/workshops, etc.; 36 ebook readers from OverDrive were received and will be distributed via courier to WPLC members; (wearing their WPLC hat) WiLS is hosting a technology services sharing discussion for system staff on Feb 22nd at the Portage County Public Library; and staff are arranging for an OverDrive user group meeting at PLA.

WPLC – no report.

DLTCL: DeBacher mentioned that his former position will be posted soon. Berninger announced that the workgroup formed to revise the WISCAT resource sharing guidelines has several meetings scheduled, and that once revised, the new guidelines will be available as web pages.

Election of Officers

Current officers: David Weinhold, Chair; Rick Krumwiede, Vice-Chair; Kristen Anderson, Treasurer. Weinhold reviewed the by-laws which state that officers' terms will be one year (except that for Treasurer), and that officers may not serve more than 4 consecutive terms in the same office.

There were no nominations from the floor. **MacPhail / Hennen moved approval of continuing the current slate of officers. There was no discussion. Motion approved.**

Around The Table

MacPhail – Racine students (K-5th grade) were challenged to read 1,000,000 books by May and they did so by February!

Thompson - a few libraries have subscribed to Freegal are working through some "same services" issues.

Froistad – Barb Dimick's last day as director of the Madison Public Library will be Feb. 24th with a celebration on Feb. 21st. SRLAAW wished to thank Dimick for her many years of library service in Wisconsin. She also mentioned that the Library hosted a very successful Bookless Program to raise funds for the new building, that bids came in under budget, and that it is hoped the new library will open at the end of 2013. She noted that the library's collection is being housed temporarily at the R&LL facility.

Date/Location for Next Meeting

There was a suggestion that the next SRLAAW meeting be scheduled on **May 9th**, the day before the WAPL Conference - Stevens Point.

Weinhold mentioned that Eldred extended an invitation for dinner at her place the night before the August meeting, and that members would be polled to determine a date for the meeting.

Another meeting will be scheduled on Tuesday, **October 22nd** - the day before the WLA Fall Conference – from 1:30-4:30 – La Crosse.

Motion to Adjourn

Thompson / Trojanowski moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sepnafski
Meeting Recorder