

# **Council on Library and Network Development**

## **Meeting Minutes**

September 8, 2017  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
River Falls Public Library  
140 Union Street  
River Falls, WI 54022

Phone bridge: 1-877-820-7831 | Passcode: 709486

Members Present: Terence (Terry) Berres, Franklin  
Becki George, Birchwood  
Svetha Hetzler, Madison (virtual)  
Douglas (Doug) Lay , Suamico  
Bryan McCormick, Janesville  
Dennis Myers, Germantown  
Jess Ripp, Milwaukee (virtual)  
Joan Robb, Green Bay (virtual)  
Mary Therese (M.T.) Boyle, Burlington (virtual)  
Kathy Pletcher, Denmark (Virtual)

Members Absent: Cara Cavin, Verona  
Miriam Erickson, Fish Creek  
Thomas (Tom) Kamenick, Saukville  
Martha (Marty) Van Pelt, Sun Prairie  
Kristi Williams, Cottage Grove  
Joshua Cowles, Fond du Lac

DPI Staff: Martha Berninger (virtual)  
John DeBacher  
Kurt Kiefer  
Ben Miller  
Alison Hiam

Others: Bruce Smith, WiLS (virtual)

1. CALL TO ORDER  
Bryan McCormick called the meeting to order at 9:17am
- 2.. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM  
Becki George called the roll: 10 members were present; quorum achieved.
3. WELCOME TO RIVER FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Library Director, Nancy Miller welcomed COLAND to the River Falls Public Library, named Public Library of the Year in 2015, and thanked us for traveling to River Falls. She briefly described community outreach activities, including trying to make the library available whenever possible, to whatever group wishes to utilize the space. Youth services director, Monica LaVold, described her involvement with early literacy initiatives in the community.
4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA  
Motion to approve the agenda as published by Dennis Myers, seconded by Terrence Berres. Motion approved.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 17, 2016 MEETING  
A correction was made to the minutes of July 17, 2017. Svetha Hetzler is from Sun Prairie, not Madison. Motion to approve by Dennis Myers, seconded by Doug Lay. Motion carried.
6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR: CORRESPONDENCE  
Thank you letters were sent to our previous host, Linda Vincent of the Milwaukee Public Library and Cheryl Orgas, Executive Director of ABLE - Audio and Braille Literacy Enhancement, by Cara Cavin.
7. PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM REDESIGN (PLSR) UPDATE  
Bruce Smith reported on the most recent activities of the PLSR steering committee.

Two major initiatives came out of the August planning retreat:

- Outreach by the steering committee members.
  - There will be ten regional meetings held throughout the state during September, 2017. Meetings are open to the public. Two steering committee members will attend and present the findings and progress of the PLSR committee's work;
  - Feedback, from regional meetings, will be used by workgroups to inform and finalize their work. The importance of communicating with county stakeholders, to keep them informed about the PLSR work, was acknowledged.
- In October 2017, workgroups will finalize the details of their models for reporting purposes.

There will be a PLSR track at the upcoming WLA conference. Committee members will present several sessions updating the library community on their work. Sessions will be videotaped and shared on the PLSR website.

Bryan McCormick added comments about the general lack of awareness and the need for more information about the role of state resource and system libraries, contracting for services, role of interlibrary loan, the need for a statewide vision for provision of library services, continued emphasis on effective communication about PLSR vision, and shared public perceptions of provided services.

Kurt Kiefer acknowledged the vision driving the PLSR is to provide equitable services to all Wisconsin citizens and the need to identify the value of resource libraries and identify perceived gaps in services. Follow up surveys may need to be done to close gaps in the data, attributed to lack of awareness of the services of resource libraries and system services.

McCormick commented on models for providing services through resource libraries. Workgroups are using survey data to map ideas and make recommendations, moving forward to make final recommendations in March 2018.

Kurt Kiefer acknowledged that, within the 16 systems, there is a broad disparity of what services are provided.

Questions to be considered by the PLSR workgroups:

- How can we deliver services?
- Who wants the services?
- What's the most efficient way to deliver the services in the most economical way?

Dennis Myers acknowledged that quality communication about services within and among public library systems and between member libraries, is needed. John DeBacher concurred, communication is necessary and intra- and inter-system cooperation is essential, for the benefit of all Wisconsin citizens.

John DeBacher shared information about the investigation that has been done, regarding the structure of public library services in other states. Requirements of Chapter 43 has been researched thoroughly, to help the workgroups understand the role, funding, structure, and services of regional libraries. The concept of shared library services has been around since the 1950-60's. Kurt Kiefer asked what state public library structure is most like Wisconsin. DeBacher shared the structure of services in Minnesota. Kurt Kiefer surmised that the governance structure in Wisconsin is somewhat unique.

Every PLSR workgroup has a template for their report, including: general overview by project manager, including communication and contributors, background of the charge, information gathering, desired outcomes, analysis of inequities/gaps/ inefficiencies, overview of their model with a description of their model of access to services, create data charts to communicate their model and support for staffing requirements and anticipated funding, scenarios - gathered from surveys - to evaluate if the proposed model will meet needs, identify modifications that may be necessary to better utilize available funding, identify administrative needs and recommendations for implementation of proposed models, understanding the impact of the proposal.

The final PLSR recommendations are due to State Superintendent in March 2018.

Kurt Kiefer emphasized the PLSR committee's deliberate strategy for communicating, face-to-face with those impacted by the work of the PLSR committees. Monthly check-ins and frequent communication with system directors have helped to make the process more transparent. COLAND members are

encouraged to attend regional meetings, engage with public library directions and attend the WLA Conference.

John DeBacher and Ben Miller and others at DPI serve as liaisons to the PLSR committee at large and are members of specific workgroups. COLAND members with questions, may contact DPI staff for additional clarification of the committee's and workgroup work. Speed of the initiative is increasing, as workgroups clarify their charge.

The work done by PLSR Chair, John Thompson and Paula Kiely was acknowledged by Kurt Kiefer.

Terrence Berres expressed appreciation for linked information within the agenda, so COLAND members can access information regarding agenda topics in preparation for the meeting, and be referenced in the minutes,

## 8. PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS DRAFT

Reported by John DeBacher. The draft of the sixth edition of Public Library Standards has been completed. The standards are largely recommendations to public libraries regarding governance, system membership, funding, staffing, programs & services, access and facilities. Technology is embedded into all areas of the standards. The standards are intended to serve as a planning document for library boards. The last standards update was done in 2010; last major revision was done in 2000. A future goal is to make the standards document available as an interactive, online document so libraries can use it as a dynamic planning tool. Feedback from COLAND members is appreciated. Comments should be directed to John DeBacher or Shannon Schultz. The final draft will come before COLAND for endorsement at the November meeting.

Dennis Myers requested access to the past document, for comparison purposes. DPI staff will prepare a comparative summary, highlighting changes between the past document and the 6<sup>th</sup> edition draft. Kiefer commended the DPI staff's process to make the process of updating these Standards as transparent as possible.

Bryan McCormick asked if the standards are set so low that they become viewed as meaningless? DeBacher responded that they would not. The standards are a planning tool.

## 9. STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO COLAND

Reported by Martha Berninger. A copy of the draft report is linked to the agenda.

This report will go to Superintendent, Tony Evers. The report focuses on interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing. A 12-point executive summary was prepared, highlighting six activities of statewide library organizations including the CCBC, South Central Library Systems Delivery Service, WILS, Wisconsin Talking Books and Braille Library, and Wisconsin Schools Digital Library Consortium and six projects and services of DPI, including division activities regarding the Badgerlink database,

WISELearn, WISCAT, Wisconsin Digital Archives and the the Wisconsin Youth Service Development Institute.

COLAND members are requested to review the report in its entirety and direct comments or questions to Berninger.

Kiefer mentioned the state e-book projects. The public library e-book service is the largest in the nation. The school library initiative is just rolling out. He also acknowledged the quality, hard work of the Division team members.

## 10. DLT STANDING REPORT

John DeBacher reported on the status of LSTA. DLT staff are optimistic that funding for IMLS will be included in the upcoming Federal budget. The state LSTA program was downsized, due to funding uncertainty. This year, only statewide projects were funded, given the budget uncertainty. A Wisconsin proposal for 2018 has been submitted, that Division staff believes meets all of the IMLS reporting requirements.

The final Public Library Data report has been completed and submitted. Reporting the final data to the broader statewide audience is in process. Data from annual system plan reports is included.

Ben Miller reported on WISCAT. Funding for the statewide platform comes largely from LSTA funds. Licensing changes have been made to manage the efficiency of the business processes.

Martha Berninger reported on the Badgerlink resource rebid process, slated for July 1, 2018. Input regarding resources provided is currently being taken, and discussions are a part of the PLSR workgroup process.

DPI Staffing update provided by Kurt Kiefer – Of the Public Library Division positions, 2/3 are funded by IMLS and LSTA funding. Funding uncertainties had left positions vacant/unfilled. With more secure funding expected for 2018, a functional analysis of position responsibilities has been conducted and new position descriptions written so that recruitment for open consultation and support positions within the division can begin. The necessity of collaboration between the Public Library Team and the Libraries and Lifelong Learning Team is crucial to efficiencies in the Division for Library Services.

Communications update by Kurt Kiefer - Blog content has moved from a Google platform to Drupal. Team members have worked to develop a common, statewide library calendar to gather and publicize information about national, state and regional professional development opportunities.

## 11. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kiefer reported on federal funding for libraries, which appears to be flat for the upcoming funding cycle.

State budget funding looks positive. Funding for Badgerlink resources has been approved. Increases for funding for public library system aide has been requested. A compromise to increase the funding has been reached. WISE funding was not included in the funding bill. Other funding paths are being sought; perhaps in a separate bill. Access to TEACH funding is being sought for small and rural libraries. The Division is seeking some flexibility in the language of how TEACH funds are dispersed. Initiatives to appropriate funds for resources to develop technology skills, previously received from a Microsoft settlement, are underway. Discussion regarding the importance and idiosyncrasies of the library funding reimbursement formula detailed in Wisconsin Statute 43.12.

12. UPDATE ON COLAND APPOINTMENTS

McCormick reported that Nick Dimassis will join COLAND in November. He is Library Director, Beloit Public Library.

Becki George contacted WEMTA President regarding the need for school library professional appointments to COLAND.

Dennis Myers has made contacts for additional public representatives.

13. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/ FUTURE MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

- a) November 10, 2017 - School Location – Oshkosh
- b) January, 2018: Virtual meeting
- c) March, 2018: La Crosse School District?
- d) Rice Lake – Topics: Future Ready Librarian, updated Content Standards
- e) Other Locations: Fond du Lac – Makerspace; Eau Claire – CVTC ; Egg Harbor

14. NOON – 15 MINUTE BREAK THEN WORKING LUNCH

15. PRESENTATION AND TOUR

Youth services director, Monica LaVold led a tour of the River Falls Public Library facility and provided information on programming.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Becki George. Meeting was adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becki George, COLAND Secretary