

NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION

Lincoln, NE

March 5, 2018

MINUTES

The Nebraska Library Commission met March 5, 2018, at the Atrium building, 1200 N Street, Lincoln. The meeting notice was posted on the Commission website and the Nebraska.gov public meeting calendar.

Commission members present: Michael LaCroix, Charles Peek and Sandy White, and Molly Fisher (via phone). Staff present: Rod Wagner, Jennifer Wrampe.

Michael LaCroix called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. This meeting complies with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Sandy White and seconded by Charles Peek to approve the agenda. Motion carried on roll call vote: Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Sandy White - aye. Motion approved.

Approval of the Minutes: (January 26, 2018) a motion was made by Charles Peek and seconded by Sandy White to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried on roll call vote: Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Sandy White - aye. Motion approved.

Chair's Report and Commissioners' Comments

Charles Peek attended the Broken Bow Public Library ribbon cutting ceremony on January 27 to celebrate completion of the library's renovation and expansion project. The Grand Island Independent and the Kearney Hub newspapers ran articles about Broken Bow's library expansion and renovation project event. Kearney Public Library will host a 3 in1 Workshop on April 20. Presentations include Central Plains Library System Micro Makerspaces, Information Security and Escape Rooms.

Sandy White reported that Alliance Public Library Foundation sponsored a St. Patrick's Day meal and a trip to Deadwood. Chadron Public Library has an adult winter reading program. Ogallala Public Library has a make it yourself mint sugar scrub. Sidney Public Library has a link to the Sidney makerspace on its website. Morrill Public Library is having a St. Patrick's Day breakfast. The Morrill library is also showing the Longmire TV series for movie days.

Molly Fisher reported that Lincoln City Libraries participated in a bird count; the LCL has a mobile app called BookTime; an author alert service; and an Outreach by Mail service to deliver books to a customer's home free of charge. Fisher said that Lincoln's Lied Center for the Performing Arts collaborated with the Lincoln City Libraries on a project called Savor the Color of Life, an adult reading challenge to encourage people to read African American literature. Included are a gospel music concert, a scavenger hunt, a movie versus the book event and slam poetry. The Lincoln Children's Museum, History Museum and the African American Museum

received a grant to participate in a Read Aloud project to read to kids age 3-5 for 15 minutes a day. Lincoln City Libraries received a Humanities Nebraska grant to print and mail posters to 320 libraries featuring the new Nebraska Authors website.

Michael LaCroix reported that Three Rivers Library System (TRaiLS) is adding new book kits. Summer Reading Programs are coming up soon and TRaiLS is offering various resources to assist libraries in their programs. Laura Marlane, Omaha Public Library executive director, wrote an article published in the Omaha World Herald about the Seed Library, which started at the Benson Branch and is now in three other Omaha branch libraries. Coding classes are held at OPL branches for different age ranges. OPL continues to plan for expansion with a possibility of a new branch library in southwest Omaha.

Director's Report

Personnel – Rod Wagner reported that Justine Carmer has started as TBBS Readers Advisor beginning March 5.

Museum and Library Services Act of 2017 – Wagner reported that sponsors continue to seek additional co-sponsors; especially from members of the Senate's HELP committee (Health, Education, Labor and Pensions).

Big Talk from Small Libraries Webcast – Wagner distributed a report from Christa Porter, Library Development Director, on Big Talk from Small Libraries. The webcast was held on February 23 with over 330 attendees from Nebraska, 36 other states and 4 Canadian provinces. All the sessions were recorded and will be available online.

Nebraska Center for the Book – Wagner reported that the Celebration of Nebraska Books will be held on October 27. Twyla Hansen, Nebraska State Poet, will be the awards presenter. Twyla Hansen is completing her term as Nebraska State Poet in November. Humanities Nebraska, Nebraska Arts Council, and the Library Commission are collaborating on the process for Nebraska State Poet nominations and recommendations to be made to the governor for appointment of Nebraska's next State Poet. The appointment term is five years.

2018 Nebraska Book Festival – Wagner said that the next Nebraska Book Festival will be held August 25 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln City Campus Union. The University of Nebraska Press is the lead organization for planning and hosting the festival.

Nebraska Library Advocacy Day – Wagner commented on Nebraska Library Advocacy Day activities to be held March 6. Wagner said that over 70 are registered to participate. A 10:00 a.m. briefing at the Capitol will be followed by time to meet with state senators, and a noon luncheon at the Cornhusker Hotel. Sally Snyder will have children's books out for senators to take and Tessa Terry will be taking photos for READ posters. The State Advisory Council on Libraries will hold its meeting at the Cornhusker Hotel following the luncheon.

Nebraska Library Association Spring Meetings – Wagner reported that Nebraska Library Association Spring Meetings (Public Library & Trustee Section; School, Children's and Young People's Section; Paraprofessional Section; and Regional Library Systems) are scheduled to be held in April with locations in Seward, Tilden, Lexington, and Alliance. Featured speakers are

David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska Omaha, and Sheryl Feinstein, Dean of the College of Education, University of Nebraska Kearney.

National Library Legislative Day – Wagner reported that National Library Legislative day will be held May 7-8. Wagner and Michael LaCroix will attend.

Library Commission Lease Update – The Department of Administrative Services signed a new lease agreement with the Atrium Building owner. A date to start renovations has not been set.

Financial Report

February Financial Report – Wagner commented that expenditures are in line with budget with anticipation of a 2% state funds reduction for the current fiscal year.

LSTA FY 2018 Appropriation Status – Wagner said that Congress has until March 23 to appropriate funds for federal agencies and programs through the end of the current federal fiscal year ending September 30. March 23 is the date the current continuing budget resolution expires. Funding for the Library Services and Construction Act is expected to be equal to the amount appropriated last fiscal year.

New Business

Out-of-State Travel Request – Wagner requested approval to attend National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. on May 7-8 and Chief Officers of State Library Agencies meeting on May 9.

A motion was made by Charles Peek and seconded by Sandy White to approve the travel request. Motion carried on roll call vote: Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Sandy White – aye. Motion approved.

Next Meeting Dates – The next Commission meetings will be held May 11, July 13 and September 14.

Adjournment

Michael LaCroix adjourned the meeting.

Jennifer Wrampe