

NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION

Lincoln, Nebraska

September 13, 2013

MINUTES

The Nebraska Library Commission met on September 13, 2013, at the Library Commission office, 1200 N Street, Lincoln. The meeting notice was posted on the Commission website and the Nebraska.gov public meeting calendar.

Commission members present: Patricia (Pat) Gross, Sherry Crow, Michael LaCroix, Molly Fisher; Steve Batty via telephone. Staff present: Rod Wagner, JoAnn McManus, Richard Miller, Laura Johnson, John Felton and Sue Bilstoft.

Sherry Crow, chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. This meeting is in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Michael LaCroix and seconded by Molly Fisher to approve the agenda. Motion carried on roll call vote: Sherry Crow - aye; Patricia (Pat) Gross – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Molly Fisher - aye. Motion approved.

Approval of the Minutes: (July 12, 2013) a motion was made by Patricia (Pat) Gross and seconded by Michael LaCroix to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried on roll call vote: Sherry Crow - aye; Patricia (Pat) Gross – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Michael LaCroix - aye. Motion approved.

Chair's Report and Commissioners' Comments

Pat Gross reported that a farewell reception was held for Nancy Escamilla who is leaving the Scottsbluff Public Library to move to Lincoln. Beth Trupp, Gering Public Library youth services librarian, has retired. She will remain on the Panhandle Library System board. Pat said that the Ogallala Public Library is planning for a new library. Hyannis Public Library held an open house to celebrate the BTOP computer center and has reported a 20% increase in circulation attributing the increase to library space renovation and the addition of BTOP supplied technology and furnishings.

Molly Fisher reported that Scott Childers will start full time as the Southeast Library System director on September 16. *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* was selected for 2013 One Book – One Lincoln. The Lincoln City Libraries annual book sale will be held October 9-13.

Michael LaCroix reported that he attended a Omaha Area Metro Library Directors' meeting. Rose Barcal, LaVista Public Library, said their Summer Reading Program had its largest number of participants. Offutt Air Force Base library was closed but is now open part-time. The Omaha Public Library newsletter included information about resources for the Affordable Health Care Act.

Sherry Crow said that she is the NLA/NSLA Conference co-chair.

Diane Boyd was not in attendance and sent a report prior to the meeting. Dakota City's summer reading program was "Dig into Reading." Dakota City library had two college interns come and talk to the children about archaeology and the environment. Wagner said that Diane also asked to mention that the Northeast Library System is meeting in conjunction with ESU 1 at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk for its annual meeting; the Ponca Public Library held a 100th anniversary celebration in August; and the Columbus public library recently unveiled its new logo and tagline, following up on its strategic plan.

Steve Batty attended the RVLs Board meeting by conference call. McCook Public Library renovations should be completed in November.

Director's Report

Library Broadband Technology Project – JoAnn McManus reported on the BTOP project. JoAnn distributed a "nearly final" progress update and reviewed highlights. The grant is officially over at the end of September. An additional three months is available for project closeout and completion reports.

Public Library Accreditation Guidelines – Richard Miller, Laura Johnson and John Felton provided an online demonstration of the new procedures and explained how decisions were made for implementation of the new guidelines. There are 3 accreditation levels: gold, silver and bronze, and they are based on a point system. Each library must meet the 12 minimum qualifications before they can apply; they must also have a long range plan.

State Advisory Council on Libraries – Wagner reported on the July advisory council meeting. Minutes are posted on the Commission's website in draft form. The meeting was held online via GoToMeeting software. The main discussion topic was recruitment of volunteers for digital literacy training. The council also discussed state legislative session outcomes and state appropriations. The council agreed to write letters to appropriations committee members and to Governor Heineman thanking them for the Nebraska eReads e-books and digital audio books appropriation. The next council meeting will be held on November 15 in Lincoln.

Regional Library System Representatives – A meeting was held August 21 in Lexington with the regional library system directors and a board representative from each system. The meeting included discussion regarding funding for regional systems (past, current and future). Wagner said funding is not sufficient to sustain six regions. It was agreed that a task force be formed to work with the Commission to develop recommendations for reconfiguring the regions, reducing the number to five, possibly four. The task force includes representation from all six regions. A task force conference call is scheduled for September 20. Recommendations are expected to be presented during the first quarter of 2014.

Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Education Grant – Wagner reported that he received a letter from Governor Heineman approving the Commission's acceptance of the

FINRA Grant. The approval had been held up for several weeks due to state policies re matching provisions. JoAnn McManus will manage this project on a half-time basis.

Facility Issues – Wagner reported on Commission office space issues related to lower level water problems and overall space maintenance. These issues are being addressed through the State Department of Administrative Services Building Division. ASBD administers lease agreements for state agencies.

Libraries and the Affordable Care Act – Wagner reported Commission staff are providing information and participating in presentations to learn more about the Affordable Care Act. It's expected that libraries will be a place where people will go to find ACA information and use library computers for insurance enrollment. Wagner said there will be a session at the NLA/NSLA conference on the ACA.

Nebraska Center for the Book – Wagner reported that book award judging is nearly complete. Winners will be given awards at the NCB Annual meeting and Celebration of Books on October 26 at the Nebraska History Museum in Lincoln. The Library Commission will be presented the Jane Geske Award at that event. The 2014 One Book One Nebraska selection will also be announced at that time. Mary Jo Ryan and Devra Dragos will attend the National Book Festival on September 21 and 22. NCB board members Donna Marvin and Mary Ellen Ducey will also attend the festival and help staff the Nebraska exhibit. The Commission, along with other state libraries, receives LSTA funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to participate in the National Book Festival.

Association of Rural and Small Libraries – The ARSL Conference will be held September 25-27 in Omaha. Laura Johnson is on the conference organizing committee. Christa Burns, Laura Johnson, and Michael Sauers are among the conference speakers. The Library Commission is a conference co-host along with Iowa Library Services (Iowa's state library agency). There is a record number of registrants at 470.

Financial Report

July/August Financial Report – Wagner reported that it is early in the fiscal year and expenditures are in line with the budget. The Federal fiscal year begins October 1. There are no appropriations made for the fiscal year, including LSTA program funding.

LSTA FY 2013 and FY 2014 Appropriation Status – Wagner stated that the Commission has not received a response regarding the Commission's state maintenance of effort waiver request for the LSTA grants to states program funding.

New Business

Out-of-State Travel Request – Rod Wagner requested approval for travel to attend Chief Officers of State Library Agencies and Western Council of State Libraries meetings in Savannah, GA, October 27-November 1. A motion was made by Michael LaCroix and seconded by Molly

Fisher to approve Wagner's travel request. Motion carried on roll call vote: Sherry Crow – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Patricia Gross – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye. Motion approved.

Next Meeting Date – The next Commission meeting will be held on October 25. The January meeting was re-scheduled to be held on January 17.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Sherry Crow at 11:18 a.m.

Jennifer Wrampe