

Western Council 2017 Fall Meeting

Attendance:

Susan McVey- OK; Cindy Roupe- KS; Debbie Musselman- MO; Daria Bossman-SD; Michael Scott- IA; Patience Fredericksen- AK; Holly Henley- AZ; Mary Soucie- ND; Jamie Markus- WY; Rod Wagner- NE; Jennie Stapp- MT; Mark Smith-TX; Donna Jones Morris- UT; Gene Hainer- CO; Justin Maga- American ; Samoa; Ryanne Cooper- NM; Carolyn Ashcraft- AR; Jeff Kintop- NV; Cindy Ahern- WA; Ann Joslin- ID; Stacey Aldrich- HI; MaryKay Dahlgren- OR

Motion to approve the minutes Jen, second Rod. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer Cindy Ahern reviewed the budget and financial report. We are in good financial shape at this time. Cindy will estimate the costs for the spring meeting. Mark questioned if we should try to use our PDE for the spring meeting. Mark believes we should encourage people to utilize their PDE for the spring meeting if possible or pay for a portion of the travel. MaryKay said we'd like people to be mindful when traveling and not ask for reimbursement if possible. We've discussed meeting in hub cities every other year. We're trying to not dip into our reserves. The reimbursement form is on our website. Fill out the form and attach the needed receipts, not meal receipts, and send either as a PDF or via mail. WestCo will pay for travel and one additional night as needed and per diem of travel days. Per diem is CONUS. Receipts include airfare, parking, hotel, etc. just not meals. A shout out to Jo for making sure with Amigos that the PDE's are working. Send PDE requests to Cindy. There are guidelines around the PDE- can use two at once or ½ and bank the others.

We bid Donna a fond farewell and confirmed that UT SL is still willing to host us in the spring. We will meet at the State Library. We would like to arrange an outing or two. We'll try to arrange a tour of the SLC Public Library. CE suggestions include a report on Washington's study of VR in libraries, a follow up to Montana's presentation on advocacy and the Peter Bromberg, director of Salt Lake City PL is part of EveryLibrary. MaryKay will send out a Doodle survey to see what dates work for most people. We usually have one day of CE and business meeting of the next day, finishing up for lunch. Mark will work on CE. Send suggested CE topics to Mark or MaryKay.

Discussion:

High director turnover: CO is experiencing high director turnover and he wondered if this is a trend and if SLA's are doing to some sort of onboarding. WY has had 40% turnover in the last 24 months; they bring the directors to the SLA in month 2 and then follow up in six months. ID does new library director orientation, 2 per year, bring them into Boise, pay expenses and hotel room if needed. Feedback from new library directors is very positive. UT does a very similar thing, sometimes they do 3 a year if there's high turnover. WY library directors get together quarterly. ID convenes an annual meeting of library directors as does UT. In Oregon, the Library Association does the convening of the library directors. Oregon Library Development does a series of timed emails and bring them in but don't pay expenses. They open it up to anyone that wants to come. MO sends out information visits in first year and do a virtual meeting. NM and ND do the orientation one-on-one at the library but NM likes the idea of bringing them to the SLA. It creates a cohort of sorts among the new library directors.

OK has had a change in the library association, moving from an employee to a management firm. No one in the office to mentor. Elected officers are taking on more responsibility. Eliminating office space that was leased. Susan asked if other associations are going this route and what the impact has been on the SLA. In AR, the director passed away and the secretary took on that role; there have been some issues caused by this so they now have a management company in MS. WA Library Association is also going through some rocky waters right now and Cindy is keeping an eye on it. TX Library Association has 14 employees and 6,000 people attend their conference; the SLA works closely with the association.

Sharing:

AK:

building has been open a year and it's wonderful.

Library development has grown from 2-4.

They hosted programs from the native perspective on the sesquicentennial

Partnered with Juneau library for Nasa@My Library

Did Big Read

Working with public TV on a TV show

They were a LEAP state and worked on increasing CAT2

SD:

several staff have retired. Have hired 6 new people.

Updated school standards and have increased visibility of school libraries. Part of ESSA implementation.

School Libraries are mentioned 7 times which is awesome.

Transitioned from SDLN to SD Network. Have 80 libraries on the new network.

Secretary of Education is retiring so anxiously awaiting replacement.

MO:

Susan is enjoying retirement

New administration started in January and have been very supportive of libraries.

Starting from a better budget position than they've been in a long time.

Two positions restored- adult services and cataloging. Workforce Development for Libraries will be the target.

Pilot library for NASA@My Library

KS:

Applications close tomorrow for State Librarian position but if anyone from COSLA is interested they will extend the deadline

After 8 years of budget cuts, they're maintaining. New legislature did a tax increase plus they're pro education; supportive of statewide databases.

The Dept of Ed is doing the mercury project which will follow the mercury space program and so SLA is trying to line up resources to support this through the public libraries.

Need to make some changes with staff because librarians have been replaced with library support due to budget cuts.

OK:

Had a site visit this year from IMLS

40% reduction since 2008; at 48% of authorized FTE's- 37 out of 82.

Haven't yet had trouble with the match but struggling with MOE.

Many schools are down to 4 days per week; about 1500 emergency certifications in schools due to losing teachers

There's a special sessions since Sept 28 to figure out budget. House needs to generate new revenue but they're reluctant to do so. New money (probably carryover) has gone into four agencies- Dept of Health, Dept of Human Services, Mental Health and HealthCare Authority. She believes more budget cuts will be coming.

There's been no salary increases in 10 years and have lost some staff due to the budget constraints. Youth Services Consultant put on a Com Festival- 8-10 YA authors, interactive sessions.

OR:

Douglas County Library closed in June of this year. Timber receipts were the issues. Each of the communities have decided to open volunteer libraries; a couple have created city libraries and one community will create a district library; Roseberg, county seat, is working to coexist in the space Walloawa County commissioners decided to withdraw funding. County residents, homebound, early literacy. Will have a district on the ballot in May 2018.

Small library in one of the cooperatives which is losing city money so they'll be withdrawing. People will still have library service through system.

Hired several new staff members; focusing on getting imbedded library program. Each state agency pays them assessment to receive library services.

Created a branding campaign with a new logo and they've gotten a lot of mileage from it.

Governor's policy staff will be moving into the third floor of the building; SLA staff will be located on the second and first floors.

Budget was fine this year

HI:

Opening a new library on the western side of Oahu. Will be incorporating some ritual into the building, which will be on a school campus. Students will sing an oauli to the librarian before entering the library and the librarian will sing it back. We are all invited to the grand opening in January.

Partnered with Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators to host a children's literature fest.

Authors read their books and then visited with people that were interested in reading and writing.

Paying attention to mental health issues. Working with Veteran's Administration, local Helping Hands to train staff to work with mental health vs. drugs.

Having health issues such as bloodborne pathogens at their buildings so working with CHOW to help collect needles and provide training.

ID:

Boundary County Library District won the best small library in America. MT, WA and Canada border it.

Timber country with not a lot of action or monetary support. Longtime library director has been doing community engagement for a long time and managed to build a FAB Lab in the community.

3 term governor is not running for another term so republican candidates are campaigning already even though primary is next May. Anne had an opportunity to meet with one of the candidates who understands the roles that libraries play in their community

Moved to a new model for ILL with OCLC. OR SLA has taken on ILL process for smaller libraries.

Academics, larger publics and some of the school will continue to share the cost. Has decreased their costs although they won't know exactly how many libraries will submit their requests.

Want to move Talking Books back to state funds for FY19. They requested last FY but she thinks there is more traction this year.

They've hired 9 new people since last December; 8 were result of retirements. One position was changed to outreach to other state agencies and organizations. Main focus is workforce and WIOA. Broadband- had state money to reimburse non e-rated portion of costs. Were able to create and fill an e-rate consultant position mid-year.

There is a group working on creating leadership in the area of broadband for the state and Anne is working with the group

NV:

Last day of legislature, bill was passed to increase budget by 500K for collection development, databases and emerging technologies plus restored a 5% cut to the budget.

Some of the NV Library Association members paid to be a lobbyist so they could talk to staff and legislators. A group of librarians also found out where the legislative aides went at the end of the day and hung out there and learned what was going on.

Legalized marijuana sales which is generating quite a bit of tax revenues.

Used the emerging technologies monies to purchase VR equipment to train libraries and will send to certain libraries as a pilot project.

Workforce development- discovered there are a lot of agencies that compete for workforce. Opened their first one-stop shop in Southern NV at Boulder City Library with local workforce development board; moved into the libraries for their training and taught library staff to do some tasks. Contracted with a company from VA for Headed2, for workforce development to pair up people with jobs and job opportunities. Will spread out to other parts of the state once pilot project is completed. Hoping the entities continue the subscription so the SLA doesn't have to pay for it.

Lost about half of their building in 2011; meeting rooms, gallery and other space turned into cubicle farms. There is interest now in turning the building into an Innovative Space for collaboration and cooperative projects.

NM:

Has had budget cuts and has vacancies although just posted two vacancies

Bonds are a major source of funding for schools and academics and they'll be reauthorized in Jan. Vote in Nov. Increasing the amount which is good. Major limitation with bods in the way that they're distributed.

NEH grant, partnering with Santa Fe opera, to provide program in libraries about developing your story. Intergenerational. Focusing on rural and tribal.

19 tribal libraries in NM that are very strong and great at advocacy. Worked with John Voss from History Pen to do a series of five videos of library directors telling their story of becoming a librarian and what their library is about. Knight funding

NM has a new foundation and they're looking forward to other opportunities to generate additional income

Will be getting two new bookmobiles, two of three will be retired. Funded by the state. If anyone has something besides the traditional large bookmobile, Ryanne would be interested. HI has airstreams.

Libraries Transform NM is a coalition of all types of librarians. Started with statewide needs assessment, ID gaps and successes. Has continued on through conversations and a summit to identify three priorities and action steps.

AR:

Things are going well. Governor's budget was funded 100%. Governor is really big on computer science courses so all grades are having to provide computer classes at every grade. Broadband has been added to all schools so hoping to add the libraries into the network since they are the "school after school".

Voluntarily gave up 4 positions. Lowest staff numbers ever- 41 out of 52. Deputy Director is retiring next year so send her someone good.

Brought two bookmarks to share with us- pick it up off the table.

Part of the Dept of Ed but doesn't answer to them; has her own board. Dept of Ed asked them to work together on a coding initiative from ALA. They received one of the ALA grants. They are creating "coding in a box" kits. Every library will get a kit. Staff will provide training for public libraries on how they can use them and encourage collaboration with schools.

Hosted first ever library leadership institute; three year program and has worked well. Getting ready to host second institute. Looking for suggestions for names of a consultant. Becky Schreiber and John Shannon were recommended; they are retiring at the end of the year.

Invited to be on the AARP AR council. They will do a clip on library services for seniors.

UT:

New partnership is with UT Educational Savings Plan. They help sponsor summer reading. When kids register for SRP, they can go online and register for 1K scholarship; 4 kids receive them each summer. Donna met with 3 of the 4 kids that received the grant. Great partnership and she recommends working with the plan in your state if there is one.

Budget in UT is pretty positive. Keep cuts on the financial page that goes to the board. Make sure you record cuts and keep it for posterity to share with future bosses.

Used LSTA process to update strategic plan for the library.

Have certain portions of the state that don't pay a distinct library tax; some cities within a county pay for a library tax but other cities don't. They are coming up with a pilot project to provide e-cards to have access to databases and e-books.

New position created, Library Consultant for Innovation. Focus on what's new and what's coming out. Just hired the first person for that position.

New administration to report to; Dept of Heritage and Arts. Whole department is working on a success project- coming together for a project that has a distinct impact on a part of the state.

UT will continue to do blind service. Full service for WY and AK; WY has been thirty or more years.

Has had turnover in staff. Looking for a mentor for new LSTA Coordinator; CO volunteered.

New library serving FLDS. Meeting of director's on opening day; that area has never had library service so unless someone has lived somewhere else, they've never had access to a public library and it was interesting to hear their thoughts.

Presented active shooter training and Crisis Management for UT SLA staff. Will train local libraries.

American Samoa:

Justin has been appointed as the Territorial Librarian.

Budget cut was 10% but more like 20% because they weren't getting monies from the Treasurer.

SRP is really popular; tripled participation this year. They are the only library serving 5 islands; all the islands would like a branch. They did open one and now everyone else wants one.

Have a program where kids create their own story using StoryCreator, using both English and Samoa

A photographer donated his photos to the library when he passed away. 800K photos from 1975-2011.

He is digitizing the photos. Mark suggested that Justin look into adding the photos to DPLA

Other members encouraged Justin to look into an enhancement grant from IMLS that's available to tribal or pacific islands.

WA:

VR- Oculus will be contacting us. They are looking for opportunities to work with libraries on coding and gaming. CA got 100 headsets; WA is getting 40 headsets. The company wants to be able to spread this to other libraries and is working with the iSchool to create a white paper and

Linked Data- doing a project with Sephera and Atlas. Have up to 5 research institutes in the state adding 100K records.

Newsbank- providing unlimited access for all libraries in the state

Has some vacant positions; hired a seasoned librarian for 6 months. Public libraries are contacting her to invite additional librarians

Prison libraries- serve 9 of the maximum and medium in the state. Partnering with public libraries to supply the inmates with cards when they leave the system. Going to do some tracking to see if the inmates go into a library and take advantage of workforce development resources

New building for all parts of the Sec of State department, dependent on election outcome

Did a strategic plan along with the 5 year plan. Available online. 7 very specific goals that concretely list goals. New mission statement- State Library; connecting Washington through power of libraries

CO:

They are receiving contacts from a group regarding porn in Ebsco products. They've sent the info to legislators, K-12 schools, public libraries. AK and SD have also received the complaints. What is being quoted is no longer available in Ebsco.

Just launched Career Online HS in a number of libraries; funding scholarships around the state.

Launched in April and second in August. Try to limit age to 19 and up so as not to conflict with other online schools.

Stable staffing

RIPL around the country is going well

Commissioner of Education has been good; she attended the Outside of the Lines program.

Early Literacy initiative- increasing family and caregivers participation in the library. Funded by a private corporation.

Have received good publicity on white paper on literature regarding fines as a deterrent to using the library and have no impact on returns or lot materials

Governor did a PSA with singer from the Fray to promote summer reading.

TX:

Staff are doing regional RIPL

Broadband project is incentivizing e-rate. Goal is to increase speeds in 100 libraries through e-rate

MT:

Received a sizable donation for the library from a patron who has supported the Talking Book in the past; will use donation to complete digital conversion of remaining analog titles of MT origin; enter into two different contracts- one for public relations, public awareness through next legislative session; and the other will be an RFP to hire a Foundation consultant to create a MT SLA and MT libraries foundation. Commission authorized in August; 10 days later received notice that they needed to plan for an additional 10% cut. They've appealed on the basis that they've implemented cost savings measures that bring them close to the 10% cuts anyway. Reluctant to release RFP's until the budget situation is resolved a little further.

NE:

Works with State Treasurer; similar to what UT does. Makes connection between libraries, education, savings plan. There are three scholarship awarded per congressional district and libraries where those kids are registered also get monies.

Offer internships for HS and College kids to work in libraries to learn about libraries. They participate in a diversity of activities

Started Library Innovation Studios project, three year project funded by IMLS, in partnership with several organizations. Work with 30 rural libraries over three years, placing Makerspace devices for 5 months for community use and training. Civic engagement, entrepreneurship, business development. Just rained first cycle of libraries last week.

State Center for the Book- LAL contest; book awards program that has connection with Nebraska authors and publishers. Give awards at an annual event for different categories; includes reception and selling of books and announcement of One Book, One Nebraska book choice.

WY:

Budget cuts; 350M underwater, mostly on school side. Ultimately will mean agencies will cut; expecting a 10% cut. Has led to the loss of certified school librarians and has led to the closing of school libraries in some districts.

County, public and academic libraries budgets have decreased by about 18%. State library has been increasing their infrastructure support in state catalog and ILL. Will take next 12-18 months to figure out how to reallocate monies spent on statewide databases.

Linked Data will be public and available on Google. Pilot project will be about two years and then they'll assess the results.

Physical space has come under fire; added 11 new personnel from other agencies last year and expect to add 15 this year. Has increased SLA's visibility to other agencies.

AZ:

Things are good in AZ; have done some reorganizing but haven't lost any staff for the last two years. Consolidated public services at Archives building so closed the reading room at the capitol. Have one reading room that has access to all the resources, handicapped parking, etc. Moving a collection of over 1M items from Capitol to Archives building. Moving records to Iron Mountain. Finished moving state publications. The company has been putting items on cards, wrap in plastic and move across the street in a truck and place on shelves. Federal documents will be next. Legal materials have been deaccessioned in favor of online options.

Library development has partnered with AZ Humanities to do frank talks. Scholar will go to a library and facilitate community discussions on a variety of topic, including immigration, border security and terrorism.

72.5 M minutes read last year in SRP. Children first, adults second, teens and then parents reading to young kids.

Focusing on STEM with early literacy, working with rural libraries by providing kits to libraries to help parents be more comfortable helping their children.

Get Involved- volunteer project with TX, CA, ID. Giving away subscriptions to Volunteer Match to help people recruit volunteers.

Received a grant from National Council of the Humanities to digitize Spanish language papers.

MaryKay adjourned the meeting at 8:30.