



## Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee

Friday, September 28, 2018

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

WLA Office

4610 South Biltmore Lane, Suite 100, Madison, WI

### MINUTES

**Members present:** Kathy Pletcher, Connie Meyer, Sherry Machones, Kris Adams Wendt, Amy Birtell, Bruce Gay, Kathy Klager, Pete Loeffel, Larry Oathout, Jim Ramsey, Vicki Teal Lovely, Scott Vrieze, Plumer Lovelace (WLA Executive Director)

**Remote participation via GoToMeeting:** Mark Arend, Heather Johnson, Steve Ohs

**Members absent:** Nick Dimassis, Anita Weier, Steve Conway (DeWitt, Ross & Stevens)

**Guests:** Kurt Kiefer (Dept. of Public Instruction), Martha Berninger (DPI), Hannah Bunting (WLA staff)

Co-chair Pletcher called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The agenda order was approved without changes. Lovelace introduced Hannah Bunting who is the newest member of the WLA Office staff.

**Approval of minutes from the July 20, 2018 meeting.** Minutes of the July 20, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously on a **motion from Birtell seconded by Machones.**

**Legislative Update.** In the absence of Conway, Pletcher opened discussion with a request for an update on the [Legislative Council Study Committee on the Investment and Use of the School Trust Funds](#). Kiefer attended the meetings on August 16 and September 5 and reported a positive atmosphere with appreciation for the value of the Common School Fund. A third meeting has been scheduled for October 11. The Wisconsin Educational Media & Technology Association (WEMTA) is taking the lead regarding monitoring committee actions and providing information to the library community.

**2019-2021 State Biennial Budget – funding goals, service themes, strategy and timeline.** Meyer distributed the latest document drafts of WLA 2019-2021 budget priority talking points for public library system aids, the four statewide resource contracts, BadgerLink and Newsline for the Blind. Discussion ensued. It was noted that a separate background document with additional information was distributed to library advocates two years ago so that they would be better able to explain the budget request handouts distributed to legislators. Conway will set up meetings with the Governor's office and Department of Administration (DOA). Further discussion on strategy was deferred until after November 6 election results are known.

**Microsoft Academy implementation.** Lovelace and Lovely provided an update on forward progress which has proven to be more challenging than anticipated. Microsoft representatives and their project managers are receiving an education in the differences between school and public library implementation considerations and being urged to "unbundle" the public library project from school-based protocols. The courses and certification are linked, but few libraries are configured to enable picking up the certification part. Beloit Public Library is piloting a work around to overcome some

technology hurdles. The overarching goal is to have success stories in response to questions from legislators. LD&L members questioned the process, deliverables and probability of future funding. It is unusual that WLA staff and LD&L members need to be so involved in ground level implementation of a legislative initiative. Their enterprise is much appreciated. Kiefer indicated several other states have also been having this conversation with similar challenges and suggested Lovelace and Lovely might gain insight from conversations with other states' chief librarians.

**TEACH Infrastructure funding.** Lovely reported on conversations held with DPI and DOA since the last LD&L meeting. This ongoing discussion with DOA is attempting to sort out policy guidelines from legal requirements; whether the public library systems may file the grant and purchase on behalf of libraries; TEACH funding as it relates to E-rate; and considering filtering and firewalls available through BadgerNet.

**Cross county payments working group.** Klager and Birtell provided an update regarding the Washington County Board of Supervisors resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association asking support for legislation to consolidate all library services under one statewide public library system. The resolution was not embraced by the WCA committee charged with legislative agenda review. Bridges Library System and Monarch Library System are discussing collaborating on providing their libraries with proactive messaging and marketing regarding cross county payments. Northern Waters Library Service has invited Meyer and Klager to reprise their presentation from the WAPL conference for a continuing education event. Arend is in the process of surveying the state for amount of Act 150 (in-county) payments above the mandatory 70% level.

**WLA Legislative Policy Statement – review for possible changes in 2019.** Pletcher drew the committee's attention to the current Legislative Policy Statement, asking members to submit suggestions for revision to her so that a final copy can be approved at the November meeting and sent to the WLA Board.

**Planning for post-campaign season relationship building.** Loeffel, Dimassis and DeBacher are charged with creating best practices kit to assist libraries holding listening sessions and other events to which legislators may be invited guests or speakers. Lovelace indicated the WLA Foundation has enough funds left in its initial allocation for the Libraries Transform poster project to subsidize 13 more presentations to legislators. Ramsey and Wendt will identify new legislators after November 6 and coordinate with the WLA Office in updating Library Legislative Day related tools.

**WLA Annual Conference.** The following programs were drawn to members' attention. [*Meeting Recorder's note:* The **Libraries and Legislators: Transforming Together** panel was cancelled when both Representative Mary Felzkowski and Representative Amy Loudenberg were regrettably unable to attend.]

**Advocacy Tool Box for Friends and Trustees - Kathy Lynn Pletcher, Nicolet Federated Library System, Green Bay; Shannon Schultz, Public Library Development, Department of Public Instruction, Madison; Bill Wilson, Milton Public Library and Arrowhead Library System**

Every library needs friends and advocates but, often, libraries fail to provide the tools that their invaluable allies can use to tell their stories effectively. This program will present concrete examples of low cost/ no cost tools that libraries can create in cooperation with their Friends and Trustees to make the case for libraries in their communities. The program will be a combination of "How we did it well" presented by practitioners, trustees, and Friends as well as "How-To" tips that attendees can act on back in their libraries.

**"I'll have that \$10 sandwich, for \$7, please": Saying Enough to Inequitable County Reimbursement - Amanda Hegge, Whitehall Public Library; Jessica Schoonover, Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library, Trempealeau**

Across Wisconsin, county boards are reimbursing libraries at 70% of the costs they incur to serve county residents who don't have a library. Hear the story of how nine Wisconsin Library Directors organized themselves to petition their county to provide these small rural libraries equitable reimbursement (100%) for the services they are providing to all who walk through their doors. The speakers will outline their efforts, provide essential talking points they have found to be successful, and share their insights on the importance of beginning this conversation across counties throughout the state.

**Federal Legislative Advocate report.** Machones reported that FY2019 funding news from the House and Senate Appropriations Committees is good, considering the original White House proposal was to eliminate or severely cut many library programs. A conference committee has recommended increasing funding levels for many programs including an extra \$2 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Level funding was provided for both the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) programs. It is anticipated that the president will sign the bill. The Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled has also been approved by Congress and is on its way to the president's desk. Co-sponsors are being solicited for the Museum and Library Services Act to reauthorize IMLS. Rep. Pocan was previously presented with a WLA Libraries Transform poster.

**DPI/DLT update.** Kiefer and Berninger reported for DPI/DLT. Wisconsin has been awarded a grant of just under \$250K by the Laura Bush 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library Program to fund the Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) project. DPI was lead applicant for a collaborative effort with Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Wisconsin Workforce Development Association, and WLA. More detailed information will be available at WLA Fall Conference. DPI has developed an explanatory slide deck to be shared. Contracts with some BadgerLink vendors remain to be resolved; Learning Express is now part of the core resources. Kiefer promised to share additional information about the biennial DPI budget request, [LSTA Advisory Committee](#) budget, and projects to be covered out of WISE funds. Machones raised the issue of pared back 2019 delivery grants to NWLS and SCLS from LSTA monies and asked for clarification of DLT and LSTA Advisory Committee intent so those systems' budgets can be adjusted if necessary. (\*Meeting Recorder's Note: Attached to these minutes is the October 23 DPI report circulated to SRLAAW containing more details and links associated with the DPI/DLT report.)

**PLSR update.** No report was filed by John Thompson. Kiefer indicated the PLSR report writing phase is underway.

**Announcements and other business.** Lovelace will work with Pletcher and Meyer on the biennial review of government relations advisor services, with Machones covering input from SRLAAW. Wendt reported the WLA Legislative Newsletter has been placed on hiatus until after the November election.

**Upcoming 2018 meetings.** November 30

**Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM on a **motion from Gay seconded by Birtell.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Adams Wendt, Recorder

## Addendum to WLA LD&L September 28, 2018 minutes

### **DPI report submitted to SRLAAW by John DeBacher (October 23, 2018)**

**LSTA:** final reports for the 2017 grants will be solicited in November. In some cases, recipients will be granted access to the IMLS reporting site to test that avenue for reporting; in most others the DPI will collect information from grant recipients in a Word form and transfer that information onto the federal site.

**LSTA 2018-19:** External projects and grants and collaborative projects will commence in November. Project proposals in the competitive categories will be solicited and awards made in early 2019.

[Overview slide deck](#). Information on the [LSTA System Collaborative Projects: Increase Capacity for Technology Tools and Resources](#)

**State of the State - All System Directors** Reminder: the meeting will be held on **November 14, 2018**, at the DeForest Community Library. Check-in and coffee at 9:30; meeting from 10 am to 4 pm. The meeting resumes annual convenings of system directors conducted by the DPI through 2007. As then, the DPI will provide light refreshment and lunch but system directors must make their own travel and lodging arrangements (the nearby Comfort Inn & Suites accepts state rate). A confirmation email will be sent soon - attendance by system directors is required and only those other key staff with the duty of director certification and member library compliance duties. Agenda will cover: System Compliance Issues such as Member Public Library Requirements (Certification, including frequent vacancies and ways to address them; library hours and minimum director hours; library boards and financial, including expenditures on Materials; ILL "Participation;" "Same Services." Time permitted, the meeting will also cover System Audits and Financial Practices; System Board Composition and Meeting Frequency; Member Library and County Agreements and Contracts and Required system services. We will discuss the development, establishment and conformity to System Standards, or at least develop a smaller body to provide feedback to DPI development based on the PLSR workgroup and final reports.

**Google Communities:** Earlier this month, Google announced it will be making changes to Google+, the platform used to support Google Communities for Libraries. DPI uses Google Communities to communicate with both the library and school communities. We are following the developments of this announcement very closely and our Instructional Technology Services team is researching the overall impact as well as potential replacements for communication if Google+ ceases to be an option. The initial timeline indicates that Google+ will wind down over the course of 10 months. This will give our team time to best determine our course of action to make sure we are able to continue to communicate with the library community and allow the library community to engage with each other. We will continue to keep you up to date on this issue as we learn more and start to determine next steps.

**Staffing:** Youth and Inclusive Services consultant Tessa Michaelson Schmidt is on family leave through December; the Public Library Development Team will be recruiting a fourth consultant to the team providing services related to adult programming, community relations, and continuing education.

**Technology topic feedback** - Responses will help to inform how to use the WISEdata and WISEdash fund sources available to libraries. Thirteen responses. Top votes:

- Automate the library director certification process (10 votes) - started with the WISCAT ILL work using CRM; will build a directory tool next; all these efforts would be preparatory to this certification outcome

- Building common library operational and services data dashboards (10) - can leverage DPI's Microsoft Power BI licenses and team to build them using input from the field
- Facilitate integrated library system (ILS) mergers, including migrating libraries on stand-alone integrated library systems into larger consortia (9) - relates to some of the PLSR workgroup recommendations
- License and implement a statewide resource discovery tool that all libraries may use for their patrons (8) - relates to some of the PLSR workgroup recommendations

**WISELearn** - Covering ~\$275,000 of library expenses this FY; these are costs that in the past would either be carried in LSTA or simply not done at all

- Digitization
  - Digital Public Library of America's Wisconsin Hub (Recollection WI) provides statewide digital access to online content that supports student inquiry. Provides hardware and statewide support in the digitization of Wisconsin cultural artifacts for inclusion to Recollection WI/DPLA in conformance with metadata standards. Supports student inquiry.
  - Consortium management for Recollection Wisconsin, including professional development and marketing of Recollection WI and DPLA to educators statewide; inclusion of historic newspapers to BadgerLink and hosting of Wisconsin Digital Archive content that both support student inquiry.
  - Library and library system staff guidance and support to effectively create digitized artifacts and standardize metadata description to enhance discovery during the student inquiry process.
- AG federated search software - Enable library staff to search across BadgerLink resources more efficiently to find digital articles and artifacts for their own professional development. Additionally, allows educators to more easily locate materials for curriculum.
- Coding initiative - Professional development for public library staff on coding and computational thinking.
- School library ebook collection administration - Statewide buying consortium administrative services. Beyond these administrative expenses, districts pay per student costs with their Common School Fund allocation.
- School library workgroup - Group works to advise and message out to school library community on Future Ready library planning and integration of the Wisconsin Information and Technology Literacy Standards, an integral component of the Wisconsin Digital Learning Plan. (Total cost for activity is \$10,000, of which 50% will be charged to WISELearn and 50% to LSTA.