

NWLS Board of Trustees
November 9, 2019
12:00 P.M.
Online

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Jeff Burke called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Present: Online: Vivian Markley (Douglas County), Kathryn McKenzie (Douglas County), Jeff Burke (Vilas County), Opal Roberts (Iron County), Buzz Byrne (Burnett County), Heather Daoust (Mail-A-Book).

In Person: Jocelyn Ford (Washburn County), Courtney Dietsche (Douglas County), Dian Delong (Sawyer County), Ron Leino (Douglas County), Jim Bassett (Sawyer County), Clarence Campbell (Ashland County), Connie Cogger (Bayfield County), Sandy Mackie (Washburn County), Samuel Pomush (Douglas County), Susan Hendrickson (Douglas County), Sherry Machones (Director), Michelle Gostomski (Office Manager).

Absent: Donna Knuckey (Winter Public Library), Jim Crandall (Bayfield County), Joyce 'Pep' Kebasa (Ashland County), Laura Rachford (Burnett County).

2. Guest Comments

None.

3. Approval of the September 21, 2019, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Motion by Buzz Byrne, second by Samuel Pomush to approve the September 21, 2019, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of September and October 2019 NWLS Expenditures

Motion by Susan Hendrickson, second by Samuel Pomush to approve the September and October 2019 NWLS Expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval of October 31, 2019, Financial Statement and Budget Report

Motion by Sandy Mackie, second by Dian Delong to accept the October 31, 2019, Financial Statement and Budget Report. Motion carried unanimously. After passing, a Board member requested to talk about something that was not listed on the agenda. The Board member was instructed to speak with the President and the Director after the meeting.

6. Discussion and Consideration of Board of Trustees 2020 Meeting Dates

Motion by Susan Hendrickson, second by Buzz Byrne to approve the presented Board of Trustees 2020 Meeting Dates. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Director's Report

Updates from member libraries:

- Ashland is pursuing an RFP for a building project.

- Bayfield has reached their \$225,000 goal for the pillar and restoration project. The start date will be spring of 2020.
- Drummond has a new Director, Addie Arens.
- WLA Elections: Teresa Schmidt (Mercer) was elected as WAPL Chair Elect and Angela Bodzislaw (Spooner) was elected as WISL Chair Elect. I will be assuming the role as WLA President officially on January 1st.
- I worked with Cable to provide them with a needs and space assessment for their proposed building project.

Updates from the system:

- Continuing Education Updates:
 - All Library Directors are now in compliance for continuing education.
 - “Marketing the Value of Your Library,” a webinar series held in October, had high attendance and received positive feedback.
 - The following workshops/webinars for 2019-2020 are scheduled and/or in the planning stages: Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference - Jan. 22-23, 2020; Customer Service Webinar Series (2020 Dates TBD)
 - The Wisconsin Public Library Development Team, with the assistance of WiLS, recently performed a statewide assessment of barriers to participation in professional development opportunities by public library staff throughout Wisconsin. Part of this included reaching out to library directors, system consultants, and professional development leaders in other states. The summary of the report indicates that, “the biggest barrier to participation in CE was nearly unanimous – lack of time and lack of adequate staff coverage. This, of course, takes different forms. Library directors have many competing job duties and prioritizing CE often comes at the cost of another responsibility; libraries on average are open more hours and have fewer FTE hours than 10 years ago; and libraries in smaller, more rural locations face the double burden of having very few staff members to cover for CE participation and often have farther to travel to attend in-person events.”
 - Tech Days Workshops were conducted in Rice Lake and Wausau for our member libraries on November 5 & 6. These events are supported and led by NWLS, IFLS, and WVLS. This year’s keynote speaker was Kris Turner. Kris is the Assistant Director of Public Services at the University of Wisconsin Law Library, where he oversees the Reference and Circulation departments. He talked about updating library websites and the digital divide. A variety of breakout sessions of presentations were held after the keynote. We had high attendance and received positive feedback.
- LEAN WI Updates:
 - Received LSTA GRANT to Increase Capacity for Technology Tools and Resources. DPI Public Library Consultant Michael Dennison alerted Josh Klingbeil that his LSTA grant application was approved for funding. In the announcement, Dennison stated “I appreciate the time and effort that went into your project application and am confident your project will improve library services in

Wisconsin.” The \$42,398 award will focus on three fundamental elements empowering efficiencies of scale – aggregation, realignment, and consolidation – for LEAN WI partners. A sub-project of the grant directly supports the FY2018 LSTA Back Up and Digitization Archival Collaboration project and the FY2019 LSTA Digitization Archives Storage Platform Project by further securing tenancy and operational overhead in the Chippewa Valley Technical College Regional Data Center in Eau Claire (WI). Capital procured by the South Central Library System for the supported LSTA-funded project will consume one full rack at the RDC with expenses for a five-year project life cycle estimated at \$28,000 for space, and \$45,000-\$60,000 for power consumption and heat management.

- LEAN WI onboarding of NWLS: Progress continues. Tony now has an intern, Eric Kontny to assist with computer replacements and network equipment replacements at member sites. NWLS hopes to be able to transition Eric from limited hours intern to full time tech support employee once he graduates in Spring 2020. There is still a lot of work to be done and this “onboarding” process will be a continuing project well into 2020.
- Discussion and planning has been initiated with WiscNet to upgrade one or both exiting 1Gbps internet transit interconnects to 10Gbps or possibly 25Gbps interconnects. This discussion and plan of action set will likely break into multiple sub projects, including the possible restructuring of NWLS internet transiting to allow for more efficient use of the NWLS head-end BadgerNet circuit to connect NWLS offices with the LEAN WI datacenter.
- LEAN WI partners are working with an interested Library System to determine if mutual interests and benefits align for a virtualization capacity consumer relationship (similar to the ILS hosting relationship with NWLS prior to their joining up as a partner in 2019) or potentially full technology resource sharing partnership. Josh is looking into working more through the LEAN WI partnership to enhance strong engagements between ILS admins and teams in each partner system and to continue the growth of collaborative engagement with other Sierra ILS admins and teams throughout the State.
- NWLS conducted a strategic planning workshop on October 29th at LCO, facilitated by Nancy Wilhelm, Board President of the Alice Baker Library and Board Member of the Bridges Library System. The raw data is being compiled and will be used to construct the Merlin and NWLS strategic plans, which should be ready by the end of the year.
- Cataloging training was conducted by Jackee and Anne-Marie across the system in September. They have also been working on an ILS audit with committee members.
- Ann Larson (Hayward) and I are working on a youth services workshop for December or early January.
- E-book issues:
 - On November 1, Macmillan Publishing enacted an embargo to library eBook consortia limiting access to new books for an 8 week period. After that period, metered copies would be available for purchase. [The Wisconsin Public Library Consortium has communicated](#) that they will not be purchasing copies of these titles and urge Advantage accounts to follow suit until at least December 20th,

when the initial 8 week embargo ends. They will continue to discuss and provide a more detailed plan at that time. Only newly released eBooks are affected, downloadable audiobooks are not included in the embargo. Additional, school library consortia, such as the WSDLC are unaffected.

- John Sargent, CEO of Macmillan Publishing, reiterated his commitment to following through with the change in licensing. His identified problem is that library eBook sales are increasing, while customers sales are beginning to decline.
- ALA delivered over 160,000 signatures to Congress to support a change in law concerning e-book embargos and licensing. Look for a call to action to come with in the next week or so. Wisconsin's Sensenbrenner is on the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law which will be presiding over this issue.

Updates from the Director:

- I will be facilitating a staff training day here at NWLS on November 12th focusing on communication. We will have a pot luck after and then two employee evaluations.
- PLSR: There are two upcoming DPI updates on PLSR activities for anyone interested to attend: [Join DPI PLSR Activities through Spring 2020 Meeting 1](#)
November 19, 9-10 am
+1 872-703-5321 United States, Chicago (Toll)
Conference ID: 221 239 616#

[Join DPI PLR Activities through Spring 2020 Meeting 2](#)
November 25, 3-4 pm
+1 872-703-5321 United States, Chicago (Toll)
Conference ID: 579 568 935#
- I facilitated 3 sessions about inclusive services at the WVLS Director's Retreat on September 26th.
- Updates on the situation between WVLS and Marathon County: At the September MCPL Board meeting, WVLS suggested that if their board saw the value, WVLS staff and trustees were willing to form a committee with MCPL counterparts to create a structured, objective analysis of MCPL Administration's desire to more closely align with Madison Public Library, to identify the challenges of maintaining membership in WVLS, and to develop a strategic process to achieve its goals. Perhaps colleagues from other systems and resource libraries could be invited to these meetings to share their best practices and to vet solutions. At its October 21 meeting, the MCPL Board agreed to form a committee to form a taskforce to look more closely at this matter. Also, during this meeting, SCLS presented on the services it provides member libraries. WVLS has been invited to do a similar presentation at the MCPL Board meeting in December.
- NWLS Events:
 - September 17: Cataloging Training Hayward
 - September 24: Cataloging Training Superior
 - September 26: WVLS Director's Retreat

- September 27: LD&L
- September 30: Burnett County Library Planning Committee
- October 3: YSIE
- October 7: Washburn County Budget Meeting
- October 8: SRLAAW
- October 8-11: WLA Fall Conference
- October 22: WLA Fall Conference Wrap Up Meeting
- October 25: WPLC Roundtable Meeting
- October 29: Strategic Planning Workshop
- November 5: Tech Days Rice Lake
- November 6: Tech Days Wausau
- November 7: New Director Orientation in Drummond, Sawyer County Budget Meeting
- Events upcoming:
 - November 8: WISCAT User Group meeting
 - November 11: NWLS Closed
 - November 12: Staff In-Service, Sawyer County Budget Meeting
 - November 13: WLA Fall Conference 2020 meeting
 - November 14: DPI's Meeting with Public Library System Directors, Merlin & Director's Meetings
 - November 15: LD&L, LD&L Subcommittee Meeting
 - November 18: DPI CE Meeting
 - November 19: IDEA Team Meeting
 - November 25: DPI PLSR Activities Meeting
 - November 28-29: NWLS Closed
 - December 6: WLA Board Meeting
 - December 13: NWLS Winter Retreat
 - December 17-18: WLA Fall Conference 2020 meeting
 - December 24-25: NWLS Closed
 - December 31-January 1: NWLS Closed
 - January 9: WLA Board Retreat
 - January 10: WLA Volunteer Orientation

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Machones, Director