

# Secretary's Council on Library Development

James C. Kirkpatrick Building  
600 W Main, Jefferson City, MO 65101

July 19, 2024

**Members Present:** Jennifer Baldwin, Emily Jaycox, Heather Hufstedler, Rachael Grime, Amber Carr and Kirsten Shaw

**Absent:** Angela Wells, Patrick Wall, Jennifer Thompson, Jessica Hill, and Jane Mulvihill-Jones

**Staff Present:** Robin Westphal, Kayla Collins, Clarissa Schmitz, Kathleen Schmidt, Trish Vincent, Laura Kromer, Lori Brown, Merideth Johnson, Katie Dunne, Janet Caruthers, Terry Blauvelt and Cory Mihalik

**Guests Present:** None

The quarterly meeting of Secretary's Council was held Friday, July 19, 2024 in person and via Zoom. Jenn Baldwin served as meeting chair. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM.

Council members and staff introduced themselves.

**Announcements:** The next Secretary Council Meeting will be November 15, 2024 in person as this meeting will be after the election.

**Meeting Minutes:** Baldwin asked for a vote and review of the April 26, 2024 meeting minutes once a quorum was present. Grime made a motion to approve, Jaycox seconded. Minutes approved by all, none opposed.

## **Secretary of State Office Update; Trish Vincent**

Vincent states she does not have much to report but that she is always amazed by the innovative things the library does. She reiterates what Westphal and Dunne said about looking at ways to improve the Storywalk kits and new exciting things are coming with Christmas season. Vincent says that we need to keep moving forward and providing the great service that we do to our patrons.

## **Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library Update; Robin Westphal & Staff**

Lori Brown, Director of Public Services, states that Wolfner has taken over the distribution of magazines for their patrons which were previously distributed by the National Library Service (NLS). She also states that Jami Livingston, Adult Services

Librarian, has been visiting libraries across the state to educate about Wolfner's services and that it has been very well received. Some other highlights are the Mail and Make program for youth and adults is growing substantially, outreach efforts have been really good, and the Summer Reading program has 65 participating patrons with just under 400 books read so far. Brown also shares a few patron stories about the Braille Lego Block kits they offer. Robin Westphal, Director of Wolfner, states that we have a regional consultant from NLS coming to do a site visit at Wolfner in August. Jami Livingston will also be attending the NLS conference in Washington, DC in September. Lastly, Westphal states that Wolfner is currently in the process of interviewing and hiring a new Youth Services Librarian. Grime asked a question about the Braille Storywalk kits and Katie Dunne, Youth Services Consultant, let her know that we are making a couple changes to make it more of a 'program' and that they will be ready to send out soon.

### **Reference Services Update; Laura Kromer**

Kromer starts by giving praise to her team for all the hard work they do especially through the new migration process which has had its difficulties. Kromer gives a recap on the MOBIUS catalog that went live June 12. She states her and her team made tutorials, a new libguide and wrote out FAQ's so that the patrons would have everything they needed in regards to the roll out. Kromer shares that all the resources have been designed so that state employees can be super independent. She also shows a demo of the new catalog with some of the new changes and what patrons will have to do now. Lastly, Kromer states they have a neat guide on the history of the State Library that talks about how the state library was formed along with other information and photos/videos.

### **Library Development Update; Robin Westphal & Consultants**

Westphal shares that the Library Development team is looking for a new team member to fill a new position within the State Library. This new position will be titled the Library Technology Specialist and they will be taking over the Ploud project, reviewing the technology grants and learning emerging tech such as AI. Merideth Johnson, Adult Services Consultant, talks about the Artfully Aging program and the libraries that have started the training and/or programming. She mentioned that she will be presenting on this project at COSLA and ARSL in the next coming months. Janet Caruthers, Technology and Resource Sharing Consultant, talks about three different projects. She starts with PLOUD and states that it is upgrading to version 6 which will come along with some changes. This will be rolling out to libraries in groups. The Courier service with MALA will be starting to count all items that go out to all the connectors in July. Lastly, Caruthers states that Evergreen is such a success. Sarcoxie Public Library, a small library in SE Missouri with 300 patrons went live on July 11! She states that the Municipal Library Consortium will be the next to migrate to Evergreen. Katie Dunne, Youth Services Consultant, introduces herself and states that she has been visiting libraries, doing outreach, meeting with TeachingBooks and learning lots about the

libraries! Terry Blauvelt, Library Development Coordinator, states that we are entering busy season for LSTA grant related things and are preparing for those.

**2023 Public Library Survey Results; Cory Mihalik**

Mihalik gives a very detailed presentation on the 2023 Public Library Survey results that include and highlights library finances, library visits, library staffing, COVID trends, tracking trends in library usage and so much more. Detailed PowerPoint and word document available upon request.

**State Library Report; Robin Westphal**

Westphal states that in addition to everything else that was covered she is looking forward to helping the Elections department with the coming up August and November elections. Westphal also states that our next meeting on November 15, 2024 will be the last meeting with the current administration and would love to have everyone in person for that next meeting if possible.

**Adjournment:** Baldwin asked for a motion to adjourn. Grime made a motion to approve, Jaycox seconded. Approved by all, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 11:43 AM.

**Next Meeting:** November 15, 2024