

Secretary's Council on Library Development

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

July 28, 2023

Members Present: Patrick Wall, Jennifer Thompson, Jennifer Baldwin, Emily Jaycox, Heather Hufstedler, Rachael Grime, Amber Carr

Absent: Jane Mulvihill-Jones, Kirsten Shaw and Angela Wells

Staff Present: Robin Westphal, Kayla Collins, Clarissa Schmitz, Kelley Kallmeyer, Trish Vincent, Scott Clark, Laura Kromer, Lori Brown, Randy Wright, Matt Butler, Merideth Johnson, Lysha Thompson, Terry Blauvelt, Cory Mihalik, Janet Caruthers, Gloria Fordyce, and Nora Wesselman.

Guests Present: None

The quarterly meeting of Secretary's Council was held Friday, July 28, 2023 in person and via Zoom. Robin Westphal served as meeting chair until a replacement chair and vice chair has been selected. The meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM.

Council members and staff introduced themselves.

Announcements: Westphal states that we will vote on chair and vice chair positions at the last council meeting in 2023.

Meeting Minutes

Westphal asked for a vote and review of the April 28, 2023 meeting minutes. Jaycox made a motion to approve, Baldwin seconded. Minutes approved by all, none opposed.

Secretary of State Office Update; Trish Vincent

Vincent starts off with giving the library staff compliments and says how she is amazed at the outreach that this group does. She mentions how wonderful it is that Missouri Evergreen continues to grow, highlights the work that Merideth has done with the Homeless Training Institute, and how Reference Services and Wolfner Circulation have astounding numbers. She also states that the Secretary is so pleased with the library and she thanks everyone for what they do including the Council.

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library Update; Robin Westphal, Lori Brown and Randy Wright

Brown starts off talking about the KLAS conference that she attended where she learned what KLAS is wanting to get done for them in the near future. She states that a new e-reader is coming and that it is a big game changer for patrons. It can hold almost the entire NLS braille library. Brown also gives some patron contact statistics, talks about how outreach efforts are going and also announces some of the upcoming events they will be attending. Lastly, Brown talks about the NLS discontinuing magazines and that Wolfner will now distribute the magazines to patrons and that they are preparing for this since it will be a large project.

Wright starts off with detailed statistics for volunteer hours and announcing the three new volunteers to the team. He also states that 1,170 audio books have been produced and recorded since the last meeting and gives some details on the braille production numbers, Facebook stats and states new improvements are being done on the website.

Westphal finishes up the Wolfner updates stating that a new reader advisor is starting this upcoming week and states that being fully staffed is important for Wolfner. She mentions that the new refreshable braille displays will go to every braille patron. This new refreshable braille display is bringing a lot of patrons back to braille because in the past it was hard for mail carriers to keep up with large volumes of brailled books.

Reference Services Update; Laura Kromer

Kromer starts off stating that Reference Services is the library for state employees and they are constantly trying to make sure state employees know about them and that they can meet all their information needs. Reference also provides services and resources to public libraries and to the general public as well. Kromer also states that fiscal year 2023 was one of their best and gives some statistics which include a 40% increase in state employees with library cards. This leads to more reference questions, more website visits and more subscribers to newsletters. Reference is also doing a new outreach strategy where they connect with employees right when they start as well as touching base with current and longtime patrons. Lastly, Kromer highlights that the interlibrary loan service has been so busy lately due to more people knowing about services and how to use them.

Library Development Update; Robin Westphal & Consultants

Westphal introduces the new Administration and Management Consultant, Gloria Fordyce. Fordyce gives an overview of her experience in libraries and her background. She also talks about her plans for the position and what she wants to accomplish. Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant, highlights the new Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative that she is working on with TeachingBooks. It will offer school and public libraries new tools to guide them with their collections, displays, etc. Janet Caruthers, Technology and Resource Sharing Consultant, highlights PLOUD which is websites for small libraries. PLOUD was started in early 2021 and we currently have 36 libraries that are part of the project now. Merideth Johnson, Adult Services Consultant, highlights the Lifetime Arts project that is starting with 7 libraries this fall and hopes to expand and

then also highlights the Excel Online High School program that is very successful. Terry Blauvelt, Grants Officer, highlights the upcoming IMLS site visit. Dennis Nangle from IMLS will come in from D.C. to talk with us about how we manage grants, talk with staff and also visit a few libraries with outstanding grants. Matt Butler, Digitization Consultant, highlights some upcoming changes to contentDM which includes the rebuilding of the backend site from the ground up to meet needs of modern trends and users within digital collections. They are still actively testing new features and collections will be structured differently within the internal database and can be in two different places as well as collections being web-based.

2022 Public Library Survey Results; Cory Mihalik

Mihalik gives a very detailed presentation on the 2022 Public Library Survey results that include and highlights library finances, COVID related closures and operating hours, library visits, library staffing, tracking trends in library usage and so much more. Detailed PowerPoint available upon request.

State Library Report; Robin Westphal

Westphal states there are still some vacancies on the Council that we will be working to fill and will appoint the Council Chair and Vice Chair at the next meeting. She states that she doesn't have anything additional to report aside from what has been mentioned.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:12 PM.

Next Meeting: November 17, 2023