

Secretary's Council on Library Development

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

April 26, 2024

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

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

Staff Present: Robin Westphal, Kayla Collins, Clarissa Schmitz, Scott Clark, Laura Kromer, Lori Brown, Brandon Lammers, Merideth Johnson, Lysha Thompson, Terry Blauvelt, and Janet Caruthers

Guests Present: None

The quarterly meeting of Secretary's Council was held Friday, April 26, 2024 in person and via Zoom. Patrick Wall served as meeting chair. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Council members and staff introduced themselves.

Meeting Minutes

Wall asked for a vote and review of the November 17, 2023 meeting minutes. Grime made a motion to approve, Jaycox seconded. Minutes approved by all, none opposed.

Secretary of State Office Update; Scott Clark

Clark states that the SOS office has been going through the budget process and it has been a little slower than usual. He states that he attended a Senate Appropriations Committee Hearing with Trish Vincent and all of our budget is still intact which is good news. He expects a budget to be passed by the constitutional deadlines.

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

Westphal starts off stating that Wolfner is entering busy season with outreach events and that Lori and her team will continue to attend events until around June with a small break and then back at it in the fall. Westphal also states that Wolfner Library has been nominated as Library of the Year from NLS and they are waiting to hear back on the results. Westphal does a small show and tell of a new Braille Lego Kit that Wolfner has to offer that patrons and libraries can check out. It also includes 8-week programming that helps teach Braille in multiple ways. There is also the Refreshable Braille Device and Lori Brown states that there has been a huge increase in downloadable Braille

books and magazines since last year at this time. Lastly, Westphal shares the new iBill device which can be used to determine what denominations of bills. These are available free to those with visual impairments.

Lori Brown, Public Services Director, starts off stating that Wolfner has a new Reader Advisor, Jon Wilcox and that he is a great addition to the team. Brown states that this year they have created a Patron Communications Team and the goal of this is to inform, educate and entertain Wolfner patrons. Wolfner has also started making podcasts and so far, there are 11 total podcasts produced. This is another way Wolfner is getting more information out to patrons and libraries. Brown talks a bit about the iBill device as well and shares that these came from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. She also states that Wolfner started an Adult Mail and Make Program and they are also ready for their Youth and Adult Summer Reading Program.

Brandon Lammers, Recording Studio Manager, states they are currently in the process of recording 18 of the MASL award titles and a portion of one will be played momentarily as an example. They also just recently had the volunteer appreciation luncheon with 35 volunteers attending. Lammers also touched on the podcasts and how there is so much more to come with that. Lastly, he finished up by providing at home volunteer statistics, as much work is done by volunteers before they enter the recording studio.

Reference Services Update; Laura Kromer

Kromer highlights the monthly newsletter, *Beyond the Stacks*, and states that they have reached their goal of 3000 subscribers as of January 2024. This newsletter has a huge impact on patrons and is one of the best ways to reach them with information. Kromer also states that Reference Services has over 20,000 documents in their state publications collection now including the Governors Feral Hog Task Report which was a challenge to find! Laura gives a huge credit to Susan Ditch, the Government Documents Librarian on the collection. She has doubled what was in the collection since she started. Kromer states that they try as hard as possible to make all of these documents easily accessible. Lastly, she states that Reference Services is in the middle of a catalog migration and the new system launches May 22. The migration will change the look and feel of how library directors make requests but will still have the same general features. More details to come regarding the migration at the next meeting.

Library Development Update; Robin Westphal & Consultants

Westphal starts off with a couple projects the State Library is currently working on with one of them being the Artfully Aging Program that we partnered with the Wyoming State Library and Lifetime Arts on to provide creative aging programming in our communities. We are hoping this is something we can continue to offer after the grant ends. Westphal states the State Library is also working on the contracts for databases and programs that we provide throughout the year. Westphal mentions that Library Development is down two consultants, Matt Butler and Gloria Fordyce, who have both moved on to other jobs. We plan to rework the job description for the Digitization Consultant position.

Lysa Thompson, Youth Services Consultant, talks about the circulation of the STEM kits and how we are currently working on updating certain kits and will be adding new kits that focus more on the high school age range. Thompson also gave an overview on the new Braille Storywalk kits, what is included, how they will be circulated and any questions council members had.

Merideth Johnson, Adult Services Consultant, shares a video overview of the Artfully Aging program with Lifetime Arts that aligns with what the State Library is trying to achieve with the program. Johnson also highlights another program which is the Autism Webinar Series that we partnered with Monarch on and how these webinars can help staff members, patrons and family members understand more about autism.

Janet Caruthers, Technology and Resource Sharing Consultant, talks about the NorthStar Digital Literacy program and that we have 10 libraries that have joined since starting. We will continue this program into the 2025 fiscal year. Caruthers also highlights the statewide OCLC project and that we are in the midst of completing the FY25 contract. PLOUD has been put on hold currently since we do not have another staff member helping with this project so no new libraries have been added. Lastly, by the end of 2024, West Plains Public Library, Adair County Library, Sarcoxie Public Library and the Municipal Library Consortium which consists of 9 libraries in the St. Louis area will all be live in Missouri Evergreen with over 5 million items available to patrons.

FY2025 LSTA Plan; Terry Blauvelt

Blauvelt gave a descriptive overview of the FY2025 LSTA Plan which includes how the Missouri State library will obligate and spend the funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Included in the plan are grants and statewide projects that the Missouri State Library will offer for the upcoming federal fiscal year. Wall asked for an endorsement of the FY2025 LSTA Plan. Grime made a motion to endorse, Jaycox seconded. None opposed, FY2025 LSTA Plan endorsed by all.

State Library Report; Robin Westphal

Westphal starts off stating that Merideth Johnson is part of the conference committee for ARSL so she is helping work on the planning of the 2024 conference in Springfield, MA. She will also be presenting on the Artfully Aging Program. Westphal also states that she is the treasurer of the Western Council Group of State Librarians and they are planning the annual conference for 2024 in San Diego, CA. Lastly, Westphal shares that the only legislation pending in regards to libraries in the legislation that allows consolidated library districts to change their fiscal year.

Adjournment

Wall asked for a motion to adjourn. Baldwin made a motion to approve, Jaycox seconded. Approved by all, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 11:56 AM.

Next Meeting: July 19, 2024