

System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) Q2 2021 Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Recorder: Bradley Shipps

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Scherer called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

2. Quorum Determination – confirmed

Attendance:

Rebecca Scherer, Vice Chair (MCLS), Bradley Shipps (OWLS), Barb Brattin (KCLS), Bruce Gay (Waukesha PL), Colleen Rortvedt (APL), Dave Kranz (SWLS), Garrett Erickson (Mead PL), Jeff Gilderson-Duwe (WLS), Jessie Lee-Jones (Platteville PL), Joan Johnson (Milwaukee PL), Kristen Anderson (WRLS), Kristin Stoeger (Manitowoc PL), Leah Giordano (Marathon Cty PL), M. Van Pelt (SCLS), Marla Sepnafski (WVLS), Mellanie Mercier (Bridges), Pamela Westby (Eau Claire PL), Shanneon Grant (LaCrosse PL), Sherry Machones (NWLS), Steve Hesel (MCFLS), Steve Ohs (LLS), Steve Platteter (ALS), Sue Heskin (Superior PL), Sarah A. Sugden (Brown Cty PL)

Affiliated Organizations/Guests:

Courtney Harris (Covering Wisconsin), Martha F. Berninger (DPI), Caroline Pacey (WiLS), Hannah Good Zima (NFLS), Jaime Healy-Plotkin (COLAND), Jen Chamberlain (WiLS), Mark Jochem (SCLS), Benjamin D. Miller (DPI)

3. Proxy announcements

Proxy: Steve Platteter (ALS) for Bryan McCormick (Hedberg PL)

Proxy: Mellanie Mercier for Karol Kennedy (Bridges)

4. Introductions/Welcome Guests (Scherer)

5. Approval of the Agenda (Scherer) – Moved by Ohs, 2nd by Machones, carried

6. Approval of the Minutes from Q1 2021 (March 29, 2021) (Scherer) – Moved by Ohs, 2nd by Sepnafski, carried

7. Presentation by Covering Wisconsin (Courtney Harris)

Machones introduced Courtney Harris to share about Covering Wisconsin, a cooperative venture to help people in WI find and use health insurance. Slides have been emailed to SRLAAW list.

8. Treasurer's Report (Anderson)

Van Pelt: Will WLA be billing SRLAAW members for advocacy fees?

Machones: The increase will be reflected in next January's billing process.

Approval of report moved by Platteter, 2nd by Van Pelt, carried.

9. LD&L Report (Gay)

LD&L met on May 14. No further update on what has already been shared about the budget increase that passed Joint Finance. We hope it will move to the Governor's desk intact, but the budget process is ongoing. Recollection Wisconsin funding was not included. Conway is looking for other options. Libraries had a presence at Finance Committee budget hearings. Next Library Legislative Day will be Tuesday February 8, 2022 in person. Expect a blizzard. Libraries Transform posters project has resumed. LD&L Chair Pete Loeffel is crafting a volunteer job description for that project. No report from county municipal funding workgroup.

Gilderson-Duwe: Does Libraries Transform refer to the posters with photos of legislators?

Gay: Yes. New plan will be to ask the legislators' staff to send a photo of the legislator with their favorite book rather than sending a photographer to them.

10. Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) Project (Berninger, Jochem)

Jochem: Training modules for UEI, Job Center, Labor Market are available on LAWDS web page. Web page will be revamped as a resource for library staff to quickly access training materials and contact info. Also resources for patrons. Working with members of statewide marketing cohort. Contact Martha or Carl Jaskolksi with questions.

Berninger: Applied to IMLS to extend project through end of calendar year and repurpose 2020's unspent travel budget. Costs for in-person meetings and trainings can be covered. A large chunk set aside for statewide outreach effort coordinated by Cindy Fesmeyer, reps from DWO, and the marketing cohort. Vendor selected to develop creative concept, working with LAWDS advisory group. Advertising plan for online ads to guide searchers to the library as a resource.

Scherer: Is the statewide marketing group specific to the LAWDS project or is it the general group?

Berninger: It's the general group. Contact Cindy to have someone added to the group.

11. Discussion Regarding Holding August's Annual Meeting In-Person

Scherer: MCLS has one more summer meeting that will be hybrid. Expects to go back to in-person meetings in September. Sepnafski is the host, any thoughts?

Zima: NFLS has been reaching out to scheduled meeting hosts. Heather is open to hosting the traditional gathering if people want to come. Also checked with Leah at Marathon. Currently meeting rooms are closed to events. Could change over the next few months. We could skip it again. We will meet in person at WLA in November.

Johnson: Would there be an option to join by phone?

Zima: Yes, we will plan to have a hybrid option.

Gilderson-Duwe: Would attend in person but may be hard to find a venue. Scherer and Machones concur.

Van Pelt: Skip it

Machones: In that case, we hope to see everyone at WLA in Green Bay.

12. Impact of COVID-19 on Libraries

No updates

13. Affiliated Organization Reports:

DPI – Miller submitted a written report.

In response to PLSR Rec 4 on the funding formula, DPI has issued a bid for a consultant to complete an analysis. Miller will share bid specifications via email. DPI will not act unilaterally to change the formula.

Machones: Loeffel, Machones, and Conway spoke this week and are close to identifying their tactical team.

Miller: DPI will take responsibility for communication with stakeholders.

Scherer: What is the timeline?

Miller: Beginning work not before July 1, deliverable (report and presentation) in Spring 2022 with an eye toward 2023 budget cycle.

Johnson: Who will be the final decision maker on the recommendation?

Miller: Working with LD&L the whole way, will be seeking champions for the change. Preliminary discussions about a possible summit to reach consensus among stakeholders. Likely to be incorporated into DPI's budget as a recommendation from the community.

BadgerLink is looking at an RFP process for three newspaper collections with a start date about a year from now. Goal is to break apart procurement cycles.

Exciting news: New Assistant State Superintendent on July 5th: Tessa Michaelson-Schmidt

Anderson: Hiring plan for Tessa's current position?

Miller: We have a plan for coverage and plan to plan. Also have Michael Dennison's vacancy to consider. Evaluating options, analyzing needs. Likely hiring in fall.

Gilderson-Duwe: Recently praised the team in place at DPI. What kinds of projects are going to be slowed or take a back seat? Please share results of your thought process as soon as possible.

Miller: Engaged in “off-boarding” conversation with Tessa now. Not anticipating a lot of slowdowns. Will continue to communicate with us.

WILS – Chamberlain submitted a written report.

WPLC – Anderson is current Chair of WPLC. At the June Board meeting approved inclusion of magazines for two years. 2022 budget approved.

Miller: looking at an LSTA cash infusion to WPLC and WSPLC buying pools in 2021, comparable to 2020, which was \$250,000.

Scherer: Any discussion of OverDrive’s acquisition of Kanopy?

Chamberlain: Aware, talking to OverDrive, will share info when available.

WLA

Machones: Virtual interviews with finalists for ED position this week. EC meets on 23rd to determine final two for in-person interviews as soon as possible. Goal to make an offer in first week of July. Great slate of candidates. Fall conference planning in progress, meeting at 2:30 today. In person. Trying to recreate as much of planned 2020 conference as possible. Seeking a technology chair. Will email job description to list.

Scherer: Post pandemic, will there be new formats? Virtual possibilities?

Machones: Active conversation. Due to limited conference staff, not sure how possible it will be to do a hybrid conference this year. Under discussion for future. Director candidates have addressed it in interviews. A lot of people loved Whova for spring conference. Difficult to plan virtual without a technology chair. Will hire a temporary conference liaison for fall to help with exhibit hall.

COLAND – Healy-Plotkin submitted a written report.

Healy-Plotkin: COLAND met in May. Next meeting on July 9, still virtually. Considering in-person meeting in September in Three Lakes. Urges us to engage in open communication about issues for system and resource libraries. Reaching out to WLA, WEMTA, Hesper on WPLC, drafting a letter to new State Superintendent about COLAND and about our needs. DPI and Conway do a great job. COLAND also has statewide reach to advocate for library technology issues. Are there things we see that are not being addressed? COLAND meets every other month. Tries not to conflict with other meetings. Members serve on multiple committees on related topics. Contact Jamie to learn more about COLAND or with questions. Biennial report coming out soon.

Johnson: Is anyone from COLAND participating on WI Digital Equity and Inclusion group pulled together by Public Service Commission? First meeting June 24th. Goal to strengthen digital equity in WI. Joan will share contact info with Jaime.

Heser: Spoke to COLAND wearing his WPLC advocacy hat to advocate for funding for digital library.

Recollection Wisconsin – Pfothenauer submitted a written report.

Pfothenauer: The RW line item was cut from DPI budget by joint finance. Good feedback from LD&L and Conway that legislators were positive about the project. Grateful for the advocacy. Working with DPI now on alternate funding sources and will come back in next budget cycle.

Gilderson-Duwe: Heard about possible partnership between RW and system technology collaboration for digitization, possible LSTA grant for digitization archives. Can you speak to that?

Pfothenauer: Proposal will be submitted by SCLS to DPI for LSTA funding for work related to the back-up collaboration, a part of which was digital preservation for archives. RW would use that for storage, but it does not replace the funds requested in the state budget for RW operations.

Gilderson-Duwe: What would RW's role be? Project management? Contractual relationship rather than a permanent partner? Trying to understand the ongoing relationship of RW to the digitization project.

Pfothenauer: Best parallel might be relationship that RW has with Milwaukee PL for ContentDM hosting. This project would be coordinating with UW-Madison for storage.

Gilderson-Duwe: Do you have a model MOU to share with technology committee? Pfothenauer will share.

14. Member Roundtable

Johnson: Similar to Ben, several openings among executive positions, looking at potential reorganization. Does anyone have a good model for a consultant RFP for organizational development? If you have any recent experience, please share.

Heser: Plug for part-time marketing public information coordinator opening. Send candidates to MCFLS web site.

Chamberlain: Ideas to Action grant application is closing in 2 weeks. Several applications from K12 world. Would love to hear from more public libraries. Please pass the word. Particularly interested in projects that advance equity and diversity within library community. Board has increased total grant budget.

15. Next Meeting Announcement:

NFLS will send a Doodle poll to select a date in August. Meeting will most likely be online.

16. Adjournment - Having completed the agenda, Scherer adjourned the meeting at 2:28 PM.