

Secretary's Council on Library Development

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

November 17, 2023

Members Present: Patrick Wall, Jane Mulvihill-Jones, Jennifer Baldwin, Emily Jaycox, Heather Hufstedler, Rachael Grime, Amber Carr and Kirsten Shaw

Absent: Angela Wells, Jennifer Thompson and Jessica Hill

Staff Present: Robin Westphal, Kayla Collins, Clarissa Schmitz, Trish Vincent, Laura Kromer, Lori Brown, Brandon Lammers, Matt Butler, Merideth Johnson, Lysha Thompson, Terry Blauvelt, Cory Mihalik, Janet Caruthers and Gloria Fordyce

Guests Present: None

The quarterly meeting of Secretary's Council was held Friday, November 17, 2023 in person and via Zoom. Robin Westphal served as meeting chair. The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM.

Council members and staff introduced themselves.

Meeting Minutes

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

Appointment of Council Chair and Vice Chair

Westphal announced that Patrick Wall is the candidate for the Chair position on the Council and Jennifer Baldwin is the candidate for the Vice Chair position. Westphal asked for a motion to appoint the two candidates. Grime made a motion to approve, Jaycox seconded. Approved by all, none opposed. Roles of Chair and Vice Chair will start at the first 2024 meeting.

Secretary of State Office Update; Trish Vincent

Vincent states that the Secretary of State, Jay Ashcroft is very proud of the State Library. She highlights some of the accomplishments and changes that have been made during this administration here in the library. Vincent thanks everyone for all the work they do.

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library Update; Robin Westphal & Lori Brown

Brown starts by giving information about the new refreshable braille displays. It is a 20-cell braille display with 8 dots per cell and can hold hundreds of books. If a patron has internet they can download books themselves onto the display but it does not require you to have internet or technology to use. Brown states that you can also connect your smart device via Bluetooth and the refreshable braille display can read emails, texts, etc. Brown also shares that they have a new reader advisor, Vanessa Lengyel and if your library has any interest in having Wolfner Library come to your library to let them know. Westphal states that circulation numbers are around 700,000 items being circulated through Wolfner which is an outstanding amount given the number of patrons. She also shares that Wolfner has been increasing number of patrons due to outreach efforts and partnerships with other agencies. They are also working on getting podcasts for patrons since they have the recording studio. Lastly, Westphal states that Brandon Lammers is the new Recording Studio and Volunteer Manager. Brandon has been with Wolfner for over 20 years and knows the ins and outs of the job.

Reference Services Update; Laura Kromer

Kromer states that Reference Services main mission is to be the library for state employees all over Missouri as well as assisting public libraries and the general public patrons. Kromer shows a slide that contains an array of state employee job titles that Reference Services has helped in some way such as finding news, books or articles they may need to help assist them at their job. These jobs include Department Directors, Historians, Doctors, Nurses, Geologists, etc. Kromer shares they had a great library card sign up month with 305 new cards in September and 230 in October. More library card sign ups also mean more Beyond the Stacks newsletter subscribers. They are at 2,892 active subscribers! Lastly, Kromer highlights the recent webinars that Julie Cox does. Once a month, Julie has a webinar for state employees that deal a lot with professional development topics. Her 'Avoid the Burnout' webinar received the highest live attendance to date. Webinar recordings are posted to the website and video archives to watch at any time.

Library Development Update; Robin Westphal & Consultants

Merideth Johnson, Adult Services Consultant, highlights the Homeless Training Institute with over 100,00 views, the VetsNow program that is continuing to grow, several workforce development webinars coming up, and the Artfully Aging program with the second round of trainings coming up in April and programming starting soon. Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant, highlights the Collection Analysis Initiative project that she has been working on which includes webinars on how to use the Collection Analysis. There are 164 registered and that includes public and school librarians. Gloria Fordyce, Administrative and Management Consultant, highlights that her main goal is bringing together resources for libraries and directors. She created a libguide resource for new and seasoned library directors that has everything all in one place. She states that she likes being a bridge for directors and getting them to where they need to go. Janet Caruthers, Technology and Resource Sharing Consultant, highlights NorthStar Digital Literacy that has been started with MOREnet using real

funding. NorthStar has basic modules on how to use computer programs like Word and Excel. They also offer certifications for patrons to take that could help them get jobs and more. 14 libraries are currently undergoing training since September to get the program up and running for staff and patrons. Westphal chimes in and states that we are also looking at becoming a member of SHLB which stands for School, Hospital, Libraries, Broadband and that looks at broadband on a national level. Caruthers also mentions PLOUD which are websites that we help create for small libraries and we currently have 42 libraries that are part of the project. Matt Butler, Digitization Consultant, shares that over the next 12-18 months contentDM will be undergoing a major revision with changes to the backend of the system and the final product will look more like a digital exhibit that will pull information from several collections. Terry Blauvelt, LSTA Grants Officer, states that we have awarded 39 grants recently totaling \$1,617,060.00. Blauvelt also states that we are currently working on the State Program Reports for IMLS and that Summer Library Program grants are underway which are our biggest grant by the number with 35-40 awarded each year. Cory Mihalik, Statistical Research Consultant, highlights that we did get Q1/Q2 State Aid, A&E and Equalization funds paid out to libraries. He also states that the Public Library Survey is in full swing and that we added a new textbox where libraries can tell us what they are proud of and what the state library can help more with.

State Library Report; Robin Westphal

Westphal states that she attended the COSLA meeting with fellow state librarians across the country and she hopes to see that COSLA will become a more powerful advocate for libraries. She also states that the ARSL conference is one of the best continuing educations for a majority of public libraries. In addition, vendors like Ebsco, Gale and TeachingBooks are cognizant of challenges that libraries are facing and they are more of a helpful partner now aside from just being a vendor. Westphal also mentions the sunshine committee here at the library that works on improving moral and doing projects as a group that helps the community. The library adopted a family for Christmas and will be purchasing gifts for them.

Adjournment

Westphal asked for a motion to adjourn. Baldwin made a motion to approve, Jaycox seconded. Approved by all, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 11:47 AM.

Next Meeting: April 26, 2024