

Wisconsin Public Library Consortium
WPLC Board Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2017

ATTENDEES: Jean Anderson (SCLS, proxy for Martha Van Pelt), Kristen Anderson (WRLS), Mark Arend (Winnefox), Roxane Bartelt (SWLS), Evan Bend (OWLS), Anne Hamland (WVLS, guest), Jamie Matczak (NFLS), Angela Meyers (BLS), Rebecca Petersen (MCLS), Steve Platteter (ALS), Mike Sheehan (NWLS), Lin Swartz-Truesdell (KCLS), Maureen Welch (IFLS)

ABSENT: Amy Birtell (MLS), Steve Hesel (MCFLS), Joshn Klingbeil (WVLS), Mellanie Mercier (Bridges), Steve Ohs (LLS), Martha Van Pelt (SCLS)

PROJECT MANAGERS: Kate Clark, Sara Gold, Stef Morrill

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Mark Arend, chair.

Consent agenda

- a. Review agenda
- b. Approval of minutes from [April 26, 2017](#)
- c. Acceptance of [Steering Committee minutes](#)

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by S. Platteter. Seconded by M. Sheehan. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action items

Historical and Local Digital Collections Committee/Newspaper project – See [Updates](#)

There is currently no Board member on this committee, though the original plan for the committee called for one. No attendees expressed interest in serving on this committee. The committee will continue without a Board member.

User & Non-User Survey Workgroup Recommendation – See [Updates](#)

The User & Non-User Survey Workgroup has received three proposals to date.

YTD budget review - See [YTD Budget Review](#)

The Board reviewed the YTD budget provided. Project manager clarified that while the budget presented at the April meeting was low on spending, WPLC is caught up on digital content spending for the year.

A question was raised about the “Marked in Sage” column on the donation detail tab. This is an internal tracking mechanism for the project managers and can be removed from future versions.

To date, WPLC has received \$300 in donation income for 2017. Last year at this time \$225 in donations had been received, so this number is on par with prior years.

Membership on email lists: discussion and possible action

There was some discussion at our annual meeting about what email lists are available for WPLC and who is on them. Included below is the list of lists.

Background documents: [Email lists](#)

The board decided that the Board, Steering, and Workgroup lists should be treated as working lists and limited to a couple of members from each library system or participants in the workgroup. Membership on these lists should be reviewed annual.

Other lists, such as the Advantage selectors, Catalogers, and Announcements lists, will have open membership.

Project managers will add a listing of email lists on the website, indicating the group, purpose, membership guidelines, and sign-up information (when appropriate).

Maintaining the open lists may be difficult as people change positions, particularly the Advantage selectors. An introductory packet for Advantage Selectors – similar to those provided to Board and Steering – was proposed. This could include information on procedures, email lists, etc. Project manager noted that the Digital Collections workgroup is compiling best practices and recommendations for the relationship between consortium purchasing and Advantage purchasing, which could also be included in the intro packet.

Project managers will send a list for each system to review indicating which system staff are included in each email list.

2018 budget discussion and action – see [Budget](#)

The budget committee has recommended the budget, which now needs Board approval.

Member shares decreased a bit from 2017 to 2018. Buying pool income stayed the same, so the total budget is slightly less than last year. Expenses have stayed the same, except for a decrease in the newspaper hosting costs based on actuals. The buying pool calculations use the new formula as approved at the last Board meeting.

Motion to approve the 2018 budget was made by M. Sheehan. Seconded by S. Platteter. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of ideas from the “Decision-making” group at the annual meeting

At the annual meeting, one of the groups discussed questions related to decision-making, and reported the following:

They felt it is the role of the Steering Committee to make recommendations to the Board and the role of the Board to decide upon those recommendations. They indicated that the Board should only vote on action items included in the agenda that is sent prior to the meeting, and that new action items should not come up during a meeting. If a recommendation item does not meet Board approval, it should be sent back to the Steering for more conversation or with a modified

recommendation. In addition, the group felt there should be a lot of communication to eliminate the possibility of “surprise” decisions.

The Board agrees that it is good policy not to add action items during the course of the meeting. Regarding the relationship between the Board and the Steering Committee, the Board agreed that they do have the power to override Steering Committee recommendations, but good communication about the reasons for Board decisions and an opportunity for the Steering Committee to comment or provide a revised recommendation is ideal.

Discussion of statewide Ancestry Library purchase

WILS has been working with ProQuest on a potential statewide purchase for Ancestry Library and is interested in discussing if this would be best as a WPLC project. There is a potential for existing and new Ancestry subscribers to save money by purchasing as a statewide entity, particularly if there is one point of access. The WPLC provides an ideal framework to explore this project.

While there are many unknowns, most systems were interested in a statewide purchase of Ancestry if it would save money. The project manager will continue working to get additional information about pricing and structure for this project and bring back to the Board at a later meeting.

Discussion of self-published author contest

Some states, including Illinois, sponsor statewide contests for self-published authors (see <http://soontobefamous.librariescreate.com/stbf> for Illinois’ contest). Biblioboard, the vendor who coordinates these contests, has been in contact to see if Wisconsin is interested in having a similar contest in our state. Specifically, they wrote: “On Oct 14th this year, we will also produce (along with a number of other industry partners) the second Indie Author Day at several hundred libraries across North American and the UK. On IAD, along with Illinois, several other states will launch statewide author contests as the idea expands nationwide. There are huge network marketing effects to this cooperation in raising the profile of the Indie Author + Library relationship (mainstream media articles, etc). It would be great to have Wisconsin launching a contest this Fall with us and the other states and we will do everything we can to help.”

The Board proposed doing this in conjunction with WLA Literary Awards, though the analysis and recommendation would need to be made by the Steering Committee, as it would be digital library related. The first question is what the cost would be. The Project Manager will get an estimate from Biblioboard and send to the Board, and the Board will decide via email discussion whether to refer this to the Steering Committee or not to pursue it.

Discussion of August meeting

The August meeting will include discussion of the WPLC bylaws. A proposal was made to hold this meeting in-person to allow for better discussion. The Board agreed that an in-person meeting would be ideal. The Project Manager will do a Doodle Poll for dates & schedule an in-person meeting in a central location.

Information sharing from partners

K. Anderson asked for an update on the Libby app. The Project Manager shared that feedback so far has been positive – Libby is faster and better than what we have right now – and that there are plans for a

patron focus group survey to get a better understanding of where good documentation is needed. The Project Manager noted that OverDrive is offering to do all front-line support; Steering Committee will make a recommendation about whether to have OverDrive do this support or continue having libraries do this work.

M. Arend noted that the state budget will have an increase in system funding for specific purposes and wondered if there is a role for WPLC in use of this funding.

Meeting evaluation

No concerns were noted.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by S. Platteter. M. Sheehan seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.