

MINUTES

IOWA COMMISSION OF LIBRARIES

Date: October 22, 2002
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: State Library of Iowa
East 12th and Grand
Des Moines, Iowa

Present: Dale Ross, John Bennett, Dwight Carlson, Monica Gohlinghorst, Eldon Huston, Berta Van Ekeren

Guests: Bonnie McKewon, Katherine Von Wald

Staff: Steve Cox, Sandy Dixon, Carol Simmons, Mary Wegner, Annette Wetteland

Ross called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

1.0 Set Agenda

No changes to agenda.

2.0 Approve Minutes

Ross requested that the motion to adjourn the last Commission meeting be changed. Huston was assigned motion to adjourn.

3.0 Financial Report

The State Library is on target for both federal and state funds. Cox noted that line item **Fees & Licenses** includes EBSCO database funds. To-date, approximately \$102,000 has been collected from public and academic libraries who have signed up for EBSCO databases. Huston asked Cox which expenditures previously state funded are now being paid with federal funds. Cox said that significant portions of SILO, postage and supplies are now federally funded, and that the EBSCOhost databases are paid for entirely with federal funds and individual library assessments. Wegner reminded Commissioners that, in addition to the elimination of state funds for informational databases and the cancellation of Electric Library, the State Library eliminated two public services positions (10% of state-funded staff) as a result of the 03 budget cuts and also has cut its budget for the purchase of materials by 2/3 in the past two years. Cox reported that the federal e-rate subsidy offsets the cost of ICN sessions, saving the State Library \$51,000 last year and \$31,000 so far this year. Cox recommended that the State Library distribute 100 percent of the FY03 direct state aid and infrastructure funds, and 80 percent of Access Plus and Open Access funds. The Commission agreed. Van Ekeren asked about negotiations with the Department of Education over administrative fees which are taken by the Department of Education from the State Library's federal funds. Wegner said she plans to meet with the representatives of the Department of Education and the Attorney General's office to discuss this issue. Carlson suggested checking the wording of the federal appropriations language. Huston moved to accept the financial report; Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

4.0 Communications

A. Special Reports

1. State Library Marketing Team

Dixon gave an overview of the State Library Marketing Team, which is working to develop and assist in carrying out a plan to increase awareness and use of the State Library's direct library services. Team members are Mary Cameron, Helen Dagley, Beth Henning, Mandy Kirchner, Linda Maurer and Annette Wetteland; Barbara Corson and Sandy Dixon are co-chairs. Dixon noted accomplishments, including EBSCOhost training for state employees and a new State Library brochure for state employees. She reported that Legislative Fiscal Bureau and Service Bureau staff are scheduled to attend an orientation session on the services provided by the State Library, including the EBSCOhost databases. A paycheck insert will be distributed to state employees in November telling them about the availability of EBSCOhost.

2. Center for the Book

Wegner introduced Katherine Von Wald, who has been hired by the State Library as coordinator for the Iowa Center for the Book. Von Wald said she was looking forward to this new responsibility. She reported on a meeting of the Center for the Book Advisory Council held in Ames earlier in the month, in conjunction with the Humanities Iowa Voices of the Prairie event. At the recent Iowa Library Association conference, the Center's All Iowa Reads committee announced Peace Like a River as its first book selection. Von Wald said part of the criteria for this year's selection was either a book about the Midwest or written by someone from the Midwest. Von Wald reported that the Center has received a \$10,000 grant from Humanities Iowa to develop a web-based literary calendar. Commissioners invited Von Wald back to report periodically on future Center for the Book activities.

B. Commission Reports

Huston attended the State Library/Library Service Area Town Meeting in Council Bluffs and said the morning session was well attended and educational.

Gohlinghorst said she attended, via the ICN, a very good Public Library Management 1 class.

Van Ekeren attended the Iowa Library Association Fall (ILA) Conference in Des Moines and enjoyed many of the sessions and exhibits.

Ross said he also attended the ILA conference and that he received several positive comments about the State Library's decision to sign a statewide contract for EBSCOhost.

Ross discussed UCITA, the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act, which is a controversial proposed uniform contract law which seeks to regulate transactions in computer information products such as software, online databases, and e-books. If UCITA is passed, it will have a negative impact on the ability of libraries to access and use the information products they purchase. Ross would like the Commission to be knowledgeable about the issue in case it comes up in the next legislative session, and requested that Wegner mail information about UCITA to Commissioners.

C. State Librarian's Report

Wegner announced that Mary Cameron, Youth Services Consultant, received the CYP Quality Time Award at the recent Iowa Library Association Conference. This award is given by the ILA Children's and Young People's Forum to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to library services for young people. Wegner said this is indicative of the high regard in which Cameron is held by Iowa's youth services librarians.

Wegner reported that she gave a brief State Library update to ILA conference attendees. She said she outlined three new State Library projects (EBSCOhost databases, school library survey, Center for the Book) and reviewed the State Library's response to the 25% budget cut.

The school library survey has been sent to all public schools in Iowa. School library staff will respond online via the web. The deadline is November 15.

The Town Meetings received very positive evaluations. The 425 attendees represent 65% or more of Iowa's public libraries.

Wegner attended the annual program meeting of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies October 5-7.

Wegner said the federal Library Services and Technology Act has not yet been reauthorized, nor have funds for the fiscal year which began October 1, 2002 been appropriated. Most of the federal government is operating on continuing resolutions regarding funding, and may do so until after the first of the year.

Mary Cameron traveled to Washington DC to represent the State Library and the Iowa Center for the Book in the "Pavilion of the States" at the National Book Festival on October 12.

D. Iowa Library Service Area Report - Northwest Iowa Library Services

McKewon discussed statewide cooperative projects involving the Library Service Areas, and also described Northwest Iowa Library Services. She said it was rewarding to work on the State Library/Library Service Area Plan of Service this year and that the new plan has been very effective. She explained the LSA Virtual Reference Pilot Project and discussed some continuing education collaborative efforts, such as Library 101, EBSCOhost training, and Managing for Results workshops. McKewon also explained the NW LSA demographics and noted that they serve 116 public libraries in 19 counties. She described board development and staff development educational opportunities available through the NW LSA. McKewon explained that this is the second year that Northwest LSA has used the ICN to participate in county meetings in her area, and that she uses the ICN to teach the Library 101 classes.

5.0 Public Comment

Dixon informed the Commission of upcoming ICN sessions she said may be of interest, including Building an Effective Library & City Team, and Safeguarding Our Patrons' Privacy: What Every Librarian Needs to Know About the USA Patriot Act & Related Anti-Terrorism Measures.

6.0 Action Items

1. Appointment of Trustee for Northeast Library Service Area
Ross reported that this position has not been filled.
2. Western Council of State Libraries
Wegner dispersed information she received about the Western Council and noted that the majority of State Libraries west of the Mississippi are members. Western Council purposes include providing a forum for resource sharing development, and providing opportunities for staff development in each state library agency. The Commission directed that the State Library join the council.

7.0 Discussion Items

A. Program Elimination Commission
Wegner said she had been asked to speak to the Program Elimination Commission on September 5. She provided information on the role and services of the state medical library and gave examples. She outlined her twenty-three years of experience as a medical librarian in the private sector, and answered questions.

B. Plan of Service
The 2004-05 draft Plan of Service being developed by the Library Service Areas, Area Education Agency Media Divisions, and the State Library was distributed.

C. Develop 2003 calendar
The Commission set dates for 2003 meetings: February 25, April 22, June 17, August 19, October 28, and December 9. All will begin at 10:00 a.m.

8.0 Adjournment

Huston moved to adjourn; Gohlinghorst seconded. Motion carried. Adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: December 10, 2002, State Library of Iowa