Council on Library and Network Development

March 13, 2015 via Conference Call

Recent COLAND meetings have been driven by the system work group & it was once again the main focus of the relatively short meeting by telephone conference call.

Work Group Chair Kathy Pletcher reported meeting with SRLAAW on February 16, the day before Library Legislative Day, with a status report on the Vision for Libraries in the 21st Century.

She reported that the January meeting with Superintendent Evers regarding the Vision went well.

The Work Group is trying to be as transparent as possible & public comments were received from Martha Van Pelt, SCLS & Bruce Gay, Director of the Milwaukee Federated Library System, among a few others who called in.

COLAND Chair Nita Burke, Bruce Smith of SCLS & Kathy are also scheduled to make a presentation at the WAPL conference.

The order of next steps included priority being placed on convening a meeting with the LEAN study group to revisit the strategic plan of next steps, referred to as the Roadmap. Considerable use of the LEAN recommendations was made in developing the Strategic Vision & a need is felt to coordinate future plans with those involved in LEAN from the start.

The source of funds to finance future meetings was also discussed & included suggestions to:

- Self-fund
- Seek LSTA funding
- Pursue a loan from the legislature (although the climate is not auspicious)
- Appeal to the Common School Fund Board

It was acknowledged that some of the recommendations involve no material cost to pursue, such as implementing statutory changes in Chapter 43. Examples include revising Resource Library mandates & repealing the stipulation that DPI request system funding in the amount of 13% of the actual cost of library services, two areas mentioned in the LEAN study.

In order to maintain momentum, it was resolved to convene a joint meeting between the COLAND & LEAN study groups to revisit the Roadmap strategic direction criteria & assign priorities.