

**WVLS Library Advisory Committee  
April 20, 2017 - WVLS Office**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Laurie Ollhoff called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Members Present:** Steph Cherrywell (for Cynthia Taylor), Stacy Stevens, Ralph Illick, Julie Beloungy, Vicky Calmes, Candice Celestina, Elaine Rurode (for Katie Aldrich), Laurie Ollhoff, Heidi Catlin, Anna Julson, and Samantha Smith.

**Members Absent:** Virginia Woods Roberts, Sue Bedroske, Michelle Gobert, and Ruby Wenzel.

**WVLS Staff and Other Guests Present:** Kris Adams Wendt, Inese Christman, and Josh Klingbeil.

**ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Committee members were invited to introduce themselves and share news from their libraries. A quorum was declared present. The agenda was approved by consensus.

**MINUTES:** BREWSTER/OLLHOFF MOTION to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2016 meeting with correction of two misspelled name typos. All aye. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Ollhoff appointed Julson and Stevens to serve as the nominating committee charged with advancing candidates for 2018 Vice-President/2019 President - Elect. Terms are extended for non-permanent members elected to office whose leadership year falls outside the normal 2-year period of LAC service.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

- Christman provided an update on ILS/V-Cat projects including Payflow Merchant e-commerce upgrade, virtualization and renewal of the EBSCO discovery layer contract. A catalogers' retreat has been scheduled for August 10.
- Klingbeil gave an overview of WVLS technology projects under the LEAN WI partnership between WVLS and Indianhead Federated Library Service (IFLS), including the E-rate Management Service joint effort, Deep Freeze and anti-virus software upgrades, Pharos timing software licensing, router and switch replacement, Ubiquiti wireless access points, and network upgrades.
- Christman reported that WVLS and IFLS are also working cooperatively on digitization projects that embrace Recollection Wisconsin and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) and will be referenced under the umbrella name of Illuminating our Northwoods History (IONH). Workshops and trainings are being planned, as well as online tutorials.
- Christman announced that WVLS has acquired an OverDrive Advantage account via the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) to facilitate purchase of additional high demand e-book titles and provide more choices to WVLS member library patrons, and is dedicating \$20,000 to the project over the next two years. A selection committee is being formed.
- Wendt explained the emergence of the WVLS Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE) and announced December 12 has been chosen for the annual youth services workshop to be held in Wausau. She shared a draft DPI statement elaborating on the promotion and facilitation of library service to users with special needs under the new term "inclusive services," which will be further refined with action plans to be developed at the May 4 inclusive services system consultants meeting.
- Christman reported on WVLS grants to member libraries including the Innovation & Collaboration grants, as well as scholarships to the June American Library Association Conference in Chicago, and September Association for Rural and Small Libraries annual conference in St. George, Utah.
- Christman, Klingbeil reported on the current state of uncertainty regarding the federal budget in general and appropriations for the Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS) in particular. The Wisconsin LSTA Advisory Committee meets in early June. Wendt provided the federal legislative overview of advocacy efforts being led by ALA to secure FY17 and FY18 funding for IMLS (including the Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) grants to states program) and

smaller Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) program for schools since the President's budget proposed eliminating both line items.

The meeting was suspended for a 15-minute break.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** The Nominating Committee advanced the name of Ralph Illick as 2018 Vice-President/2019 President-Elect. There were no other nominations from the floor.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** JULSON/CHERRYWELL MOTION to accept the Nominating Committee report and unanimously elect Ralph Illick as 2018 Vice-President/2019 President-Elect. All aye. Motion carried.

**WVLS TECHNOLOGY PLANNING GUIDE FOR 2018 – draft:** Klingbeil reviewed the draft 2018 WVLS Planning Guide/Technology Budget Planning Narrative. The document presents an overview of the LEAN WI cooperative model between WVLS and IFLS, integrated core and optional technology services including support, and projected costs to member libraries. The goal is to provide member libraries with as much information as possible 18 months in advance to assist with local budget planning.

**LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY UPDATE:** Wendt reported that the state budget process has progressed to public hearings held by the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) in six locations. Beloungy, Wendt, and WVLS Director Marla Sepnafski joined 7 colleagues and trustees from the Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) at the hearing in Spooner on April 18 where Beloungy provided the main oral testimony. The Wisconsin Library Association has been orchestrating contacts with state legislators. The WLA budget team is confident about a favorable outcome regarding cost-to-continue funding for state funded core library programs and cautiously optimistic regarding its request for a modest increase of \$1.5 million for public library system funding. Representative Mary Felzkowski has become a library champion on JFC. Beloungy shared her impressions from the Spooner hearing. Wendt reminded non-public library LAC members that WLA is happy to advocate for specific K-12 and academic library initiatives wherever possible as they arise, however administrative structure makes it difficult to influence individual budgets.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM REDESIGN PROJECT (PLSR):** Christman reported for Sepnafski, referencing a summary letter to public system directors from PLSR Steering Committee Chair John Thompson. During the third and final phase of the project, the Steering Committee will be developing the administrative and governance structures that will support collaborative library services in Wisconsin. Sepnafski is facilitating the Chapter 43 workgroup which is researching models from other states. The final report will be presented to Superintendent Evers in May 2018. WVLS is interested in knowing their members' thoughts about the communications process, what should be considered on behalf of member libraries as new service models are reviewed, and desired outcomes. During open discussion, LAC members commented about

- the amount of advanced notice to be given for financial planning and service adjustment at the local level once final recommendations are made should be sufficient for smooth transition
- libraries "need permission to say that circulation is not our primary goal" among many services
- a thoughtful approach to transition should match the deliberative process that is PLSR
- difficulty determining an overview of the entire process from many interconnected workgroups
- concerns over knowing how PLSR will affect local libraries, their programs and services, and day to day operations; how can a director plan ahead
- the hope that continuing education would be coordinated by a professional education coordinator who would regionalize, standardize and digitize training to minimize travel time and costs
- since there will be no vote reflecting the wishes of libraries statewide, now is the time for input, but it's difficult without knowing proposed scenarios
- how interloan and delivery will change throughout the state
- potential impact on collaboration and coordination with K-12 and academic libraries

**FUTURE WVLS MULTI-TYPE COLLABORATION/Concerns and needs, ideas:** Wendt led discussion of ways in which different types of libraries within the WVLS family could complement each other, working together to facilitate programs and service goals for the benefit of shared library patrons.

Conversation topics included:

- Start up for school library e-book consortium (WiLS working with DPI to secure vendors, multi-user copies)
- TB Scott Free Library commitment to continuing outreach to Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake School
- Forest Co. Potawatomi Cultural Center Library collaboration with public libraries to provide American Indian/First Nation collection selection assistance
- The challenge of makerspace programs being perceived as “toys” and characterized as “not literacy based” in both school and public library settings by staff and the public, despite being *technology* literacy and having potential to enhance job training skills
- WVLS/IFLS makerspace kits have been well received and are helpful; the workshops were great

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no announcements.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 15. The meeting will be held at the WVLS Office with call to order at 9:30 AM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** STEVENS/ILLICK MOTION to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Adams Wendt