

## NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION

Lincoln, NE

May 12, 2017

### MINUTES

The Nebraska Library Commission met May 12, 2017, at the Atrium building, 1200 N Street, Lincoln. The meeting notice was posted on the Commission website and the Nebraska.gov public meeting calendar.

Commission members present: Michael LaCroix, Debby Bloom, Charles Peek, Molly Fisher, Susan Warneke and Sandy White. Staff present: Rod Wagner, Sam Shaw, JoAnn McManus and Jennifer Wrampe.

Michael LaCroix called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. This meeting is in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Molly Fisher and seconded by Charles Peek to approve the agenda. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Sandy White – aye; Susan Warneke – aye. Motion approved.

**Approval of the Minutes:** (March 20, 2017) a motion was made by Sandy White and seconded by Debby Bloom to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Sandy White- aye; Susan Warneke – aye. Motion approved.

### Chair's Report and Commissioners' Comments

**Charles Peek** reported that Broken Bow Public Library is undergoing a complete renovation. Kearney Public Library is preparing for summer reading programs. Denise Harders, Central Plains Library System Co-Director, said there was low attendance at the NLA Public Library and Trustees Section spring meetings. The Hildreth Public Library increased its open hours from 26 to 36. Wilson Public Library (Cozad) was selected to be part of NASA @ my library. More than 500 libraries nationwide applied to participate and 75 were chosen. Libraries will receive STEM facilitation kits, a grant to cover programing and travel costs to a 2-day NASA workshop in Denver. Ravenna Public Library started its new library construction project with a groundbreaking ceremony on April 9.

**Susan Warneke** reported that Norfolk Public Library's renovation work has started. Norfolk's summer reading program activities are being held at the Norfolk Arts Center during the library's renovation. Thirteen libraries have agreed to participate in the summer reading program with free copies of the Norfolk Daily News to encourage families to read newspapers.

**Molly Fisher** reported that Lincoln City Libraries continues efforts toward a new downtown library. Pershing Auditorium is no longer considered a possibility. Public meetings have been held to get ideas on location and library design features. A new downtown library will be a priority for the mayor, now in his third term. Lincoln City Libraries held annual fundraisers – Wine and E and the Spelling Bee. This was the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Spelling Bee. The Southeast Library System held its

recent board meeting at the Lincoln Public Schools district office building. The Southeast Library System Training Extravaganza is being held at the Seward Memorial Library on May 12.

**Sandy White** participated in Nebraska School Librarians Day in Scottsbluff on May 5. Sally Snyder presented children and teen book reviews and Beth Kabes talked about virtual field trips students can take at the library. The Nebraska Educational Technology Association Spring Conference was held in April. Jennifer LeGrande was a featured speaker with “The Many Adventures of Library Girl”. Western Library System has given many mini grants throughout the system for a variety of purposes.

**Debby Bloom** attended the Blair Public Library grand opening on April 1. She also attended the Nebraska Library Legislative Day held on March 21. The State Advisory Council meeting was held that afternoon. At the council meeting John Dale discussed the LSTA Five-Year State Program Evaluation report. Steve Fosselman, chair of the Nebraska Library Association Advocacy Committee, addressed library advocacy activities. Deb also participated in National Library Legislative Day activities in Washington D.C. (May 1-2).

**Michael LaCroix** participated in National Library Legislative Day activities in Washington, D.C. (May 1-2) and attended the Nebraska Breakfast on May 3 (hosted by Nebraska’s congressional delegation). The Three Rivers Library System is preparing for summer reading program workshops. The University of Missouri is working with Three Rivers Library System to hold an open house for those interested in the master’s degree in library science program. The Omaha mayor has put high on her list of priorities relocation of the current W. Dale Clark Public Library to the Civic Auditorium location.

### **Director’s Report**

*Personnel* – Rod Wagner reported that two candidates were interviewed for the Western Library System Director position.

*National Library Advocacy Day* – Wagner attended National Library Legislative Day in Washington D.C. Wagner said that in addition to the Library Commission representatives (Michael LaCroix, Deb Bloom, and Rod Wagner) Steve Fosselman participated in representation of the Nebraska Library Association. The Nebraska library representatives visited each of Nebraska’s congressional offices. They met and spoke with both senators (Fischer and Sasse) and congressmen (Fortenberry, Smith, and Bacon).

*LSTA National Leadership Grant Project Update* – JoAnn McManus reported on the Library Commission’s LSTA National Leadership Grant of \$530,732 awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The project will officially start July 1, 2017. Much work has taken place and more before the official start date. The project will conclude June 30, 2020. The project will provide four makerspace kits that will rotate among thirty Nebraska libraries during the grant period. Key partners are Nebraska Extension, Nebraska Innovation Studio, and Nebraska’s Regional Library Systems. Significant will be organization of community action teams, training and support, and civic engagement.

### **Financial Report**

*March-April Financial Report* – Wagner reported that the end of April financial report reflects reduced appropriations that were enacted during the legislative session.

*2017-2019 Biennium Budget Request Update* – Wagner reported that the main line appropriations bill was passed by the legislature and sent to the Governor on May 9.

*LSTA Appropriation Status* – Wagner reported that Congress enacted legislation to appropriate funding for federal agencies and programs for the remainder of the current federal fiscal year ending September 30. The Library Services and Technology Act received a \$1 million increase over last year's funding. The increase is divided among the Grants to States program, the National Library Leadership Grant program, and Museum Services.

### **Unfinished Business**

*LSTA Five-Year Evaluation Report* – A copy of the report was sent to Commissioners prior to the meeting. Wagner stated the report is important and helpful for preparation of the LSTA Five-Year Plan. Commissioners commended John Dale, evaluation project consultant, for his work and his report.

*LSTA Five-Year Plan Process* – Wagner said that a draft of the new LSTA state five-year plan will be provided prior to the Commission's June 30 meeting and will be an action item on the agenda for that meeting.

*Office Space Lease* – Jerry Breazile met with Ann Tanner, Commercial Lease Coordinator for the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services, and Kerin Peterson, Atrium Building Manager, in April to discuss office space lease renewal. Peterson will be sending a new lease proposal with cost estimates for improvements.

### **New Business**

*State Aid to Public Libraries Distribution* – Sam Shaw reported on state aid to public libraries payment calculations for this year's state aid grants. Accredited libraries receive state aid. To qualify for the grant payment libraries must submit statistics to the Commission via the Public Library Survey. A document was distributed detailing the proposed formula for state aid distribution. Unaccredited public libraries are eligible for a Dollars for Data payment of \$200 provided they submit their annual statistics. Unaccredited libraries are encouraged to work toward accreditation.

A motion was made by Molly Fisher and seconded by Charles Peek to approve the proposal for 2017 state aid distribution. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Sandy White – aye; Susan Warneke – aye. Motion approved.

*Out of State Travel* – Wagner requested approval to attend the Western Council of State Libraries meeting in Helena, Montana, June 14-16 and the American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago, IL June 23-27. Wagner said travel expenses for the Western Council of State libraries meeting will be paid by that organization.

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A motion was made by Sandy White and seconded by Debby Bloom to approve the travel request. Motion carried on roll call vote: Debby Bloom – aye; Molly Fisher – aye; Michael LaCroix – aye; Charles Peek – aye; Sandy White – aye; Susan Warneke – aye. Motion approved.

*Next Meeting Dates* – The next Commission meetings will be held June 30 and September 15.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Michael LaCroix.

Jennifer Wrampe