

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT
OCTOBER 14, 2007
The Penn Stater Conference Center
STATE COLLEGE, PA

MINUTES APPROVED

Present: Kathryn Stephanoff, Vice Chair
Philip R. Albright
David Belanger
Sara Jane Cate
Francenia L. Emery
Robert Gallivan
Helen Miller
David Mitchell
Dr. Larry Nesbit
Cynthia K. Richey
Raymond Sobina

Ex-Officio: M. Clare Zales, Deputy Secretary for Libraries & Commissioner for Libraries

Office of
Commonwealth Caryn Carr, Director, Bureau of State Library
James Hollinger, Director, Bureau of Library Development
Rita Jones, Executive Secretary, Office of Commonwealth Libraries
Jeanne Metcalf, Administrative Officer, Office of Commonwealth Libraries
Susan Solarczyk, Assistant to Deputy, Office of Commonwealth Libraries

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Stephanoff convened the regularly scheduled meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development at 3:30 p.m., October 14, 2007 in room 207 at The Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 12, 2007 MEETING

Stephanoff moved to approve the minutes of the June 2007 meeting as submitted. Gallivan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Stephanoff introduced the new council members. The new appointees are: Philip Albright, David Belanger, Helen Miller, and Cynthia Richey. Robert Gallivan was reappointed to the council. A special thank you was extended to Dr. Patricia Grey, who concluded her service term. A motion was made to send a letter from the council to Grey expressing gratitude for her committed service.

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF EDUCATION/COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Zales welcomed the new council members to the Council. In addition to her written report, Zales discussed several other issues.

2008-2009 Budget

Initial meetings were held to frame the base line for the 2008-2009 budget with Program Revision Requests (PRRs) submitted this year for the first time in five years. The purpose of PRRs is to introduce extraordinary projects into the budget process.

IMLS Grant to Study Preservation of Rare Collections

Millersville University agreed to partner with the Office of Commonwealth Libraries and PALINET to record and analyze data from the twelve sites included in the study which are:

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Raymond M. Blasco, MD Memorial Library, (Erie)
Ephrata Cloister (Ephrata)
Kittochtinny Historical Society (Franklin County)
Mansfield University, North Hall Library
Pennsylvania Archives (Harrisburg)
Pattee & Paterno Libraries of Pennsylvania State University
Southern York Public Library (Shrewsbury)
Albright Public Library (Scranton)
Free Library of Philadelphia
The Library Company (Philadelphia)
National Canal Museum (Easton)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pennsylvania Library Association Report-Glenn Miller

Miller reported on the full year of Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) activities. Although this was a year with insufficient public library funding, standards have returned and the top priority has been given to re-engagement of the funding formula. Miller extended an appreciative thank you to the Office of Commonwealth Libraries for their partnership with the Return on Investment study. PaLA continued with promotion of the role of libraries in early learning, library use of best practices in early education and look forward to another round of activities in spring 2008. Miller reported that unfortunately no additional funding was obtained for the Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to continue the digital conversion. Miller concluded with an announcement that PaLA has partnered with the PCBL to work on a study of national library funding. National funding for libraries would lead to great predictability of future funding.

Pennsylvania School Librarian's Association-Margaret Foster

Foster reported on the American Library Association's "Federal Advocacy and Media Training." The workshop focused on advocacy strategies when meeting with legislators, media strategies and advocacy skills. During "A Day on the Hill," librarians met on Capitol Hill to introduce the SKILLS Act as part of the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind.

The PSLA Leadership Conference titled "To the Top" was held in State College on July 24. The key issue was: How can PSLA best address the issue of professional development for its members? Through the use of a wiki, the Board fleshed out the framework in preparation for the Leadership Meeting attended by 89 committee members. During a brainstorming session, many great ideas were put forth that will be used by the Board in order to work on an implementation plan.

"The Future Begins @ Your Library" is the title for the upcoming AASL Conference scheduled for October 25-28, 2007 in Reno, Nevada. New information literacy standards will be announced at this conference.

The 2007 leadership summit on November 30-December 1 will bring together 200 school media leaders, experts from the medical field, education and library science professors and researchers, school administrators and policy-makers, to focus on evidence-based practice as a way to understand the impact of school libraries on student achievement. This summit is titled "Where's the Evidence? Understanding the Impact of School Libraries" and will explore the question: what differences do our school libraries and their learning initiatives make to student learning outcomes?

Three representatives from PSLA will attend The American Library Association midwinter meeting in Philadelphia from January 11-16, 2008. PSLA is working toward a stronger political presence by attending Legislative Days in Washington, D.C. on May 1-2. Several PSLA members have worked together to meet with their senators and representatives to discuss school libraries. Foster reported that Deb Kachel, the new Legislative Chairperson is doing a great job.

Foster summarized changes that have taken place within PDE and the moving of the Division of School Library Services. PSLA continues to partner the PDE in developing and presenting professional development workshops including The Assessment Planner: The Why, What and How. The need for information literacy student standards in Pennsylvania was discussed this summer by a team of PSLA members including Clare Zales, Barbara Cole, Jim Hollinger, and Crystal Patterson. Ed Vollbrecht, the Director of the Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, offered to allow them to serve on a committee that is working on revising the Assessment Anchors. This would be a beginning in addressing this important issue at the state level. Foster reported on local school libraries including the school district of Philadelphia, Cranberry and Montour School Districts. With so many school initiatives being direct to No Child Left Behind and an emphasis on student achievement, school libraries are being deemed a non-essential, high cost budgetary expenditure and positions are being eliminated.

Foster announced the upcoming PSLA 35th Annual Conference scheduled for May 1-3 2008 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. "Score with Information Literacy and Reading @ Your Library will include Allison Zmuda (keynote); Ridley Pearson (banquet); and Kadir Nelson (luncheon).

Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries-Philip Albright

Albright began by thanking the Council for giving the PCBL the opportunity to share what they are doing to enhance library programs and services throughout the Commonwealth. He discussed the library subsidy in this year's Commonwealth budget and would encourage the Governor and Legislature to increase this support on an annual basis so funding will be available to provide the level of services and program which the citizens of the Commonwealth need and deserve. PCBL continues to put a great deal of emphasis on increasing their membership, as their dues are the sole source of revenue for the committee.

The second annual Trustees and Friends Institute last spring was a high point and exceeded the expectations of all who were involved. Sessions presented by PCBL were very well attended. Albright stated that the bringing together of these two groups has fostered a much better and clearer understanding of what each does and how they can work more closely for the benefit of their library and he looks forward to many successful gatherings in the future.

Albright reported on an item that was discussed in last years report regarding the possibility of initiating a study with the ultimate goal being the identification of a dedicated funding source for libraries. Denny Leeper, the Vice Chair of PCBL, led this effort and held discussions with Commonwealth Libraries and the Pennsylvania Library Association. PCBL and PaLA together provided start-up funding in the amount of \$5000 for the initial fact-finding study and report. The report entitled "Local and State Sources of Funding for Operating Costs of Public Libraries-The National Picture" can be summarized with the following points:

- Public libraries do not have secure funding at any level of government.
- Nationwide public libraries receive about 1% of their funding from Federal sources, 10% from state sources and 82% from local governments.
- Pennsylvania is above the national average in per capita state tax support and considerably below average when it comes to local funding.
- Revenue from Pennsylvania's Friends groups is above the national average, while donations from individuals and corporate sources are both below the national average.
- Nationwide, local libraries primary source of funding is local government.

Albright reported that these findings are being digested and dissected by their respective boards and has summarized with two points given the volume of information gathered.

1. Given the “formula” the Commonwealth uses to distribute their subsidy-local support being a very important component-the various levels of municipal government (we have many) are going to have to find ways to generate more local support.
2. The most effective way to initiate change is to contact and work with legislators at all levels to enlist their support for the changes needed to properly fund our libraries.

Albright was pleased to see Friends groups specifically mentioned as a source of financial support. PCBL constantly encourages Friends to become strong and active advocates on behalf of the libraries and to become involved in local government. Albright summarized his report by stating that these are very exciting times for public libraries and stated that it is his organization’s hope and expectation that PCBL will play an important part in continued nurturing and increased funding for libraries.

Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortia Incorporated-Dan Iddings

Iddings reported on the growth of PALCI including new staff members and a new office location. John Barnett has joined PALCI as Assistant Director from Gettysburg College where he spent three years as Director of Collection Development and supervised interlibrary loan, reserves, and media services. In addition to providing service to the PALCI membership and assisting the resource-sharing initiative, John will be working with the Cooperative Collection Development task force on a number of collection management endeavors, such as a distributed print serials archive, disaster preparedness, and remote storage. In June, PALCI moved its offices from the University of Pittsburgh’s Hillman Library to Pitt’s Library Service Center in the Point Breeze neighborhood. The new address which adds much needed meeting space is: PALCI

c/o University of Pittsburgh

Room 333

7500 Thomas Boulevard

Pittsburgh, PA 15260

(412) 247-4130 (voice)

(412) 244-7537 (fax)

<http://www.palci.org> (new website address)

Iddings reported that PALCI now has a quarterly newsletter, *Periodically PALCI* to foster communication. The first issue was distributed online earlier this month with a limited-run print edition for distribution at the PaLA annual conference and the PALCI fall meeting in November. A new listserv, PALCICD-L, is available for information and discussion of collection development and management issues among PALCI members. Rowan University (NJ), Carlow University and LaRoche University (both in Pittsburgh area) have joined PALCI to bring total membership of 73 college and research libraries, primarily located in Pennsylvania but also with representation from New Jersey and West Virginia.

Iddings reported on existing programs such as E-Z Borrow and Consortial buying. E-Z Borrow continues to grow with 60 participating libraries and several more implementing the program. This patron direct request service provided access to 35 million volumes and supplied over 150,000 books in fiscal year 2007 and since July 2000 (when E-Z Borrow went live) the program has filled over 600,000 requests. In fiscal year 2007 PALCI spent over \$800,000 on a variety of different databases using the consortial buying program that allows members to purchase and or license electronic journals and databases.

A new program began by PALCI in the summer of 2007 is a resource-sharing system, Rapid ILL. A contract was signed for an official, fully operation pod this fall and sixteen institutions participated in the demo pod. The PALCI organization is serving as the administrative agency for an LSTA grant designed to develop content guideline for digitization project by Pennsylvania libraries cultural heritage organizations which will help identify history materials to be digitized and help funding agencies prioritize funding. Other participants include PALINET, PACSCL, the State Library, and the State Archives.

Iddings concluded with plans for disaster preparedness and a new strategic plan. A report has been released to ensure that every member library has a disaster plan in place and knows how to respond when a disaster occurs. PALCI and PALINET hope to work together in 2008 to sponsor disaster preparedness training and

education among member libraries and also possibly develop an Alliance for Response committee among Pittsburgh-area libraries. The PALCI Board approved the final draft of the Strategic Plan in September and can be viewed on the website. The plan defines not just the organizations' mission but its core values as well. The values it identifies are: resource sharing; collaboration and cooperation; exchange of ideas; and leadership. Iddings summarized that PALCI has always practiced these values but defining them as part of the strategic plan keeps them in the forefront of our ongoing work as we implement the goals of PALCI.

Rare Books Renovation Committee Project Report-Larry Nesbit

Nesbit prepared the budget for approval by the Council. The budget was submitted and unanimously approved. Nesbit discussed the Rare Books Renovation Project and summarized the progress being made towards moving the collection into the new Rare Books Vault.

Nesbit reported that Senator Specter's staff was "very impressed" by the presentation made by Deputy Secretary Clare Zales and Project Architect Cornelius Rusnov at a recent meeting held in Washington, D.C. Zales, Rusnov and Council Vice Chair Kathryn Stephanoff met with Jennifer Costagna, Chief of Staff, and others at the Senators office. Costagna reported that the project can potentially receive funds with the next round of federal funding.

Bureau Reports

Update on Change in District Designation for Central PA District-Jim Hollinger

Hollinger reported changes were underway to give District Center designation to the Schlow Centre Region Library in January 2008. The Centre County Library in Bellefonte held the District Center designation and has been working to assist with making a smooth transfer of responsibilities.

Genealogy Day 2007-Caryn Carr

Carr reported about the Genealogy Day held at the State Library on September 29, 2007. Although it was the first foray for the Genealogy Section into public programming, it was so successful that a 2008 date has been chosen for the annual event. Historians, genealogists and others should mark their calendars for September 20, 2008.

2008 Council Meetings

January 8, 2008

March 11, 2008 - Cynthia Richey invited the GAC to meet at Mt. Lebanon Public Library in Pittsburgh.

June 10, 2008

November 2008 - Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference in Valley Forge, PA

ADJOURNMENT

Gallivan moved to adjourn. Sobina seconded the motion. Stephanoff adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Jones, Executive Secretary
Office of Commonwealth Libraries