

THE STATE LIBRARY



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

Library Council of Washington

March 9, 2004

Washington State Library, Olympia, WA

LCW PRESENT

Carol Cahill, Public Libraries
Eve Datisman, School Libraries
Michael Eisenberg, Ex-Officio, iSchool
Leonoor Ingraham-Swets, Academic-2 Year
Yazmin Mehdi, Cultural Diversity
Lisa A. Oberg, Special Libraries
Lethene Parks, Rural Libraries

Linda Pierce, Academic-4 Year
Deborah L. Reck, Disadvantaged
Nola Sterling, Special Libraries
Kevin Stevens, Information Technology
Jan Walsh, Ex-Officio, State Librarian, WSL
Jan Weber, School Libraries
Bruce Ziegman, Public Libraries (by phone)

WSL PRESENT

Rand Simmons, Library Development
Program Manager
Jeff Martin, LSTA Administrator
Karen Goettling, Consultant
Anne Yarbrough, Secretary Administrative

SPECIAL GUESTS

Sam Reed, Secretary of State
Steve Excell, Assistant Secretary of State

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Library Council of Washington meeting was called to order by Carol Cahill, chair.

Rand introduced Will Stuiwenga who recently joined the Library Development program as Project Manager for the Statewide Database Licensing (SDL) project. Will brings a wealth of experience to his position; most recently with the Coastal Resource Sharing Network out of Tillamook, Oregon. Rand said several former colleagues from the Oregon State Library, after chastising him for taking Will away from them, praised Will for the work he did in their recent effort to obtain a statewide database for Oregon libraries.

Will shared a little about his background and said he was looking forward to making a positive contribution and impact on the SDL project.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 13, 2004 MEETING NOTES

The January 13, 2004 meeting notes were approved with a few changes to the Envisioning the Future of Council discussion.

REVIEW MEETING AGENDA

The meeting agenda was reviewed and adjusted to include a discussion of the Library's portion of the draft OSOS strategic plan.

INFORMATION SHARING

- Several Council members shared their positive experience at the recent Public Libraries Association Conference.
- Jan reported that the tribute to former State Librarian Maryan Reynolds proposed by Senator Karen Frazier passed the senate unanimously. Maryan was the first woman on the Governor's Cabinet and was a strong advocate for all libraries; it was nice to have her recognized by the full senate.
- The 2004 appropriation includes a slight increase, approximately \$138,000. Since this year, we may contribute 4% of the LSTA appropriations to the agency administrative costs, the total LSTA program budget will be about the same as in 2003. Jan pointed out that the other divisions of the agency already contribute to administrative costs, so it seemed fair that we be asked to do the same. Jeff pointed out that if paying these costs means that Administrative Services could hire additional staff members to support WSL contracts and accounting work, we would still directly benefit from those funds.
- Rand directed Council to the SDL report in the agenda packet. Re-distribution of costs from federal funds to state or local funds is being discussed. If the current initiative to reduce property taxes by 25% passes, public libraries will find it even more difficult than now to fund any increase in their share of SDL costs.

This led to a discussion on marketing. The marketing committee hopes the marketing firm will be hired and that Library "branding" will be ready later this year.

SECRETARY OF STATE SAM REED AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE STEVE EXCELL

Sam Reed and Steve Excell joined the Council to discuss the agency's strategic plan currently being developed for OFM, and their vision for the Library. Carol welcomed Sam and Steve to the Council meeting and had everyone introduce themselves.

Steve met with the Library Cabinet on March 8, 2004, on the draft strategic plan and the goals for the Library division. Four primary goals were identified:

1. Restore library research and reference services to the legislature and state government agencies in support of public policy development and implementation.
2. Collect, preserve and make accessible to all citizens of Washington materials on the government, history, culture, and natural resources of the state.
3. Provide leadership and advocacy for libraries in the state of Washington.
4. Support the information and reading needs of populations that are underserved by traditional library services.

The strategic plan is not a replacement of WSL's LSTA 5-year plan. The strategic plan covers the entire agency, including the Library. OFM will compare our budget requests to this plan, so we must be sure to include all our priorities. Sam asked the Council to provide their input. Discussion followed.

Sam reminded the Council that since this is an election year, they and their constituents should try to meet with and talk with all the gubernatorial candidates about the future of Washington libraries and the State Library.

Sam thanked Council members for their dedicated work and said they should let him know if there was anything he could do to assist the Council. Council thanked Sam and Steve for coming and discussing the strategic plan with them.

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF COUNCIL

Rand and Karen facilitated the discussion on the future of Council, continued from the last Council meeting. Notes from this discussion are found in Attachment A, Council Discussion of Issues; and Attachment B, Library Council Priorities.

Assignment. Rand, Karen, and Jeff will integrate the results of today's discussion into the Library Development section of the OSOS Strategic Plan. Rand will send Council the Plan after it has been revised at the next week's Cabinet meeting.

PROJECT REPORT — WEBJUNCTION

Rand provided an update on WebJunction. Through a three-year grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) built a portal for public libraries and other organizations to provide open access to information and on-line training. WSL is committed to participating for 1 year in the project, using \$30,000 in Gates funds. The Library Development staff is beta-testing this site and will conduct a thorough evaluation before making a further commitment to this project.

PROJECT REPORT — CENTRAL FILTERING

Rand reported that the two filtering bills before the legislature did not go forward and are essentially dead. Jan commented that the Library's CIPA workshops and grants really opened the doors for her to speak with the legislators. Since she feels there eventually will be a filtering bill passed, WSL is currently developing a central proxy Internet filter. WSL will provide a gateway to the filter that can be turned off and on at the local library; WSL will also use this system.

WRAP UP

- The next meeting of the Envisioning the Future of Council sub-committee will be some time in May. (*Note: Since the Council meeting, a telephone conference has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 07, 2004.*)
- Lethene suggested that one of the future Council meetings in Eastern Washington be at the new State Archive facility opening in May. This idea will be considered further.
- The next Council meeting will be at the Three Creeks Branch of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library on Tuesday, May 11, 2004.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Envisioning the Future of Council (cont.)
- OSOS Strategic Plan (cont.)
- Project Report

*Respectfully submitted,
Anne Yarbrough*