

Columbia County Library Systems Board
March 18, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Angie W. Cox Public Library
Pardeeville, Wisconsin

Board Members in Attendance:

Dianne Effinger
Judy Eulberg
Nan Hughes
Nancy Long
Susan Martin
Margaret (Peg) Vaughan

Board Member Excused:

Susanna Bradley

Library Directors in Attendance:

Cambria - Jennifer Tallman
Columbus - Cindy Fesemyer
Lodi Woman's Club Library - Trish Frankland
Angie W. Cox Public Library (Pardeeville) - Cassandra Lull
Portage - Shannon Schultz (County Resource Librarian)
Poynette Area Library - Lindsey Ganz
Rio - Jenna Assmus
Kilbourn Public Library (Wisconsin Dells) - Cathy Borck

SCLS Representative: Shawn Brommer

President Judy Eulberg called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

The meeting was properly noticed by e-mail and by publication in the Portage Daily Register.

Approval of Agenda:

Nan Hughes moved that the Agenda as presented be approved; her motion was seconded by Margaret Vaughan, and the motion was approved without dissent.

All in attendance introduced themselves.

Minutes of the January 15, 2016 Meeting:

Nancy Long moved that the minutes as presented be approved, and Nan Hughes seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously. Board secretary Susan Martin reported that she would send a first draft of the current meeting minutes to the Board members within days of each meeting; she requested that revisions be sent to

her within a week of their receipt so she could send the draft to the County Clerk in a timely manner.

Annual Report to the County Board:

Resource Librarian Shannon Schultz presented the annual report, and asked for comments. It was suggested that comments about each library in the system be included, but it was explained that the report had to fit in the template ordained by the county. Trish Frankland volunteered to develop a hand-out to be distributed to members of the county board at its May meeting when the annual reports will be reviewed by the Board. The hand-out will include information about each library, and may highlight some of the diverse services provided by libraries, to emphasize the role they play in the community outside of checking out books. Sue Martin moved that the report be approved as presented, and Nancy Long seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Library Advocate of the Year:

The library directors were excused from the meeting so the Board could discuss the libraries' nominations for the Advocate of the Year. Three nominations were received, and each was considered to merit the award. However, it was agreed that the forty years of service the Columbus Library's nominee had devoted to the community and especially to literacy efforts was most deserving of this year's award. Margaret Vaughan moved that Mary Lou Sharpee be named this year's Library Advocate of the Year, and Judy Eulberg seconded it. The vote was unanimous. Cindy Fesemyer will let the County Library Systems Board know the details of the event at which honor will be awarded. Sue Martin will handle the publicity once that is determined.

Resource Library Report:

Shannon explained that since all of the library directors in attendance would be reporting on the activities in their libraries, it was not necessary for her to give a system-wide report. She went on to thank the directors for their support and help during her tenure as the Director of the Portage Library and County Resource Librarian. She asked that they work as closely with her successor as they did with her.

Library Director Reports:

Cambria – Jennifer Tallman

The library's annual January Tea Party celebrated the centennial of the Cambria Library Board that was officially established in February, 1916. The Cambria school system has new leadership, and has opened a "fabulous" day care center in the elementary school. Jennifer does story time there twice a month. Planning is well underway for various Summer Library Programs, and on June 7th Jerry Apps will be the featured speaker at a community program.

Columbus – Cindy Fesemyer

This year's Summer Library Programs will focus on fitness and using outside space. Cindy explained that the highway on which the library is located will be under construction in 2017 and access to the library will be difficult. A History of Columbus event is planned as a family program on June 9. It will be held at the

privately-owned Lewis Mansion and will feature the release (and signing) of a book by Jan Ulrich about the history of the city. The event will include tours of the house, and it will be a catered affair. In November, Mark Moran from Antiques Roadshow will host an adult program for the library. The library is involved in the city's "Root for Columbus" program which includes community potlucks and projects. Those projects have included a clean-up of a park near the railroad station, a merchant-involved 'story walk', and a 'chalk walk'; a sidewalk art contest is scheduled for Red Bud Days this spring.

Lodi – Trish Frankland

Lodi is revamping its children's programming to coordinate with STEM educational programs (science, technology, engineering, math) or STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math). Adult book discussions are being held more frequently, and the types of books read and discussed has been broadened. Books they may not have chosen before are exposing the readers to new genres. A good core group has been established, and that is expanding with the new format. A new Friends group is being formed to focus on fund-raising.

Pardeeville (Angie W. Cox Library)– Cassandra Lull

Adult craft nights are being held, and teen groups are "exploding"! The teens are a very active group and filled with ideas for new activities. They held an 'Anti Valentine's Day Party.' The library is sponsoring a reading challenge.

Portage – Shannon Schultz

Shannon reported that there were over 10,000 participants in the library's programs in 2015. The Adult Services Librarian retired earlier in the year, and her replacement is filled with ideas for both adult and teen programs. The Children's Summer Library programs are taking shape, and the library will once again host the summer lunch program. The Friends book discussion on Cuba was well-received. Questions were asked of Shannon regarding children's e-books; she said that there were ten people on the selection committee for children's e-books, and that the budget for those books was \$8000 per month – Statewide – not for SCLS alone. That was followed by a discussion of appropriate computer usage, and it was agreed that libraries are all about freedom and confidentiality; librarians are not in a position to judge what people read, see and do.

Poynette – Lindsey Ganz

The Friends' Annual meeting will be held on March 28 at the library, and will feature Andrea Thalinos, an author who has just released her third novel. The event is open to the public. A new teen program has been established and a book reviewers group has been formed for both high schoolers and junior high students. The adult craft program continues to grow, and the Summer Library Program will feature a number of family-oriented activities on Tuesday evenings, such as a variety of dance lessons and yoga.

Rio – Jenna Assmus

The library is re-introducing Wednesday morning story times, and it has demonstrated a good potential for growth. Since the Olympics will be in Rio (de Janeiro), this summer, Rio (Wisconsin) will have its own Olympics. A torch-carrying

event is planned with the fire department, there will be a cupcake contest for kids, a two hour craft competition and other activities. The library is partnering with the Historical Society on this, and the quilting and gardening groups are also involved. Jenna is working more closely with the school system and getting to know the teachers. There is a lunch time book discussion led by a teacher, and Jenna and her staff are also participating.

Wisconsin Dells (Kilbourn Library) – Cathy Borck

The library held its annual Open House on January 10. The featured performer was Stewart Stotts, a storyteller, singer, guitarist. Cathy mentioned that Mr. Stotts, who has appeared at the Overture in Madison, also does an ‘elder’ program that focuses on aging. The Open House included a lunch and craft stations. Lake Delton has a beautiful new senior citizens center; the library has furnished a reading room there with books and DVDs. It is also a book mobile stop, and it has a self-service library. The Kilbourn Library celebrates National Library week in April, and in conjunction with the historical society a number of events are planned such as an art walk, ‘Yahtzee Day,’ and a Medicare seminar. The library participated in the “Go Big Read” program, and University of Wisconsin Library Science school students facilitated the program for adults; the book that was the topic of discussion was Just Mercy.

South Central Library System Report:

Shawn Brommer, representing SCLS

Shawn reported that there is an increasing number of participants in the programs offered by the libraries in the System, and that has resulted in an increased number of programs being requested by the libraries. The SCLS consultants are developing programs for all ages, and concentrating on continuing education to provide those expanded programs. Shawn is focusing on early literacy and family reading programs. SCLS has contracted with the Bridges Library System (formerly Waukesha) for an app that will help parents keep track of their children’s reading. In November, SCLS will provide a training program for public library staff on the Every Child Ready to Read program; slots for that are already filling up. Libraries are reaching out to their communities to better plan programming that meets the needs of that community, and seeking guidance on long-term program planning.

Shawn talked about LSTA grants. In 2015, a grant funded a Social Services Symposium, where staff discussed working effectively with social service clients. This year, an LSTA Grant will fund a symposium based on working with small businesses and start-ups, including expanding employment opportunities and finances.

SCLS has purchased ‘Mobil Maker Kits’ which include animation, scanning, printer and stencil cutting equipment. They are available for libraries to borrow; a demonstration of the equipment was held on March 2, and the next demo will be on April 16.

Shawn’s presentation then expanded into a group discussion on the role of libraries in identifying resources for the community. Trish Frankland mentioned “Reach Out

Lodi,' a volunteer group that partnered with community members and groups to get all services under one roof.

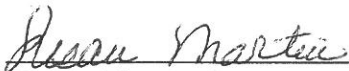
Library Visits:

Peg Vaughan visited the Cambria Library, and sat in on a Board meeting. She described the library as a 'jewel' and was impressed by its use of space, and all of the 'botany.' Director Tallman explained that one of the services the library offers is 'plant sitting' for snow birds!

Next Meeting: May 20 at the Portage Library; since a new director will probably not yet be in place, Judy and the other officers will take care of reserving the room and providing refreshments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. by President Eulberg.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Martin, Secretary

3/19/2016

