

Columbia County Library Systems Board

May 18, 2018

Meeting Minutes

Poynette Area Public Library
Poynette, Wisconsin

Board Members in Attendance:

Susanna Bradley
Dianne Effinger
Nan Hughes
Nancy M. Long
Susan Martin
Betty Reiter
Beth Ann Scott

Library Directors in Attendance:

Leslie Schultz – Portage Interim Director and Pardeeville Director
Lindsey Ganz – Poynette Library

Visitors and Guests in Attendance:

Shawn Brommer – SCLS Youth Services and Outreach Consultant

Board President Nan Hughes called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Nan called roll and noted that the meeting had been properly noticed. She welcomed the attending library Directors and guests.

Approval of Agenda:

Susanna Bradley moved that the agenda be approved, and Nancy Long seconded it. It was approved unanimously.

Approval of the March 16, 2018 Meeting:

Beth Ann Scott moved that the minutes be approved as presented. Upon Dianne Effinger's second, the motion was approved without dissent.

SCLS Report:

South Central libraries were given about \$68,000 for each of two years to help fund lifelong learning, broadband expansion, workforce development, and provide connections to public libraries to help meet their needs. They hired Mark Jochem, a part-time librarian to focus on helping library directors identify their needs and help job seekers get better jobs and look into small business development. People with social service needs often look for help at their public library. Mark will network these libraries to the sources needed to help families. In searching for information, they found that thanks to Patty Herman, Columbia County provided some of the best information. With this money they also hired Tamara

Ramski, a digitization librarian to help libraries digitize their local history collections and other special collections they might have. Nancy Long, a member of the County Economic Development Committee, asked if there would be any collaborative money available for workforce development. Shawn said the money had to stay with SCLS. All of the county reimbursement agreements have been sent out. Jay Hess is an intern that will be working with Shawn and Marty. She is interested in library administration and director skills. The libraries are going to stay with the library system online catalog, COHA. They have improved their "bibliozation" and have merged two systems. Perhaps if we have other questions Vicki Lovely, manager of South Central would be available to answer technological questions.

Dodge County is reimbursing Columbia County libraries at 90%.

Resource Library Report: Leslie reported the "All Director's" meeting, held quarterly, met in Portage, May 19, 2018. They discussed budget, policies, ILS policies, catalog, technology, and Overdrive. We were handed the 2019 library budget. We were disappointed to see funding at only 74.9 percent. Discussion followed on how we can improve our presentation. We need to continue our relationship with the County Board in a better way. How do libraries continue services with only 75% of the funding?

Board Members Library Visitation Schedule:

Cambria: Nancy Long	Columbus: Beth Ann Scott	Lodi: Nan Hughes
Pardeeville: Beth Ann Scott	Portage: Susan Martin	Poynette: Susanna Bradley
Randolph: Dianne Effinger	Rio: Betty Reiter	Wisconsin Dells: Betty Reiter
Wyocena: Nan Hughes		

Library Advocacy Discussion with Emphasis on Communication with Public Officials:

Susanna and Nancy heard a book review on NPR. James and Deborah Fallows recently wrote a book titled Our Towns. Deborah was asked, "What was it about these towns that jumped out at you?" She said, "I was amazed at the role the public libraries played in the communities."

Back on budget discussion; Directors could create a bullet point statement on what programs have been effected by budget cuts. Show examples of what they haven't been able to do with graphics showing the amount of their cuts. Perhaps we could include what libraries would like to do if cuts hadn't been made. We also discussed giving examples of what programs have succeeded. July would be a good target date for this information. The next County Board will be meeting July 18th. Finance Committee members are: Dan Drew, chair, Jim Foley, vice chair, Matthew Rohrbeck, Barry Pufahl and Joanne Wingers. Note to the librarians that if any directors go to these meetings they could contact our members to attend with them. Lindsey shared that she also attends every township meeting. She never asks for funding but thanks them for their support. She also has a handout to leave with them.

When a new resource librarian is hired in Portage the advocacy committee could be formed. Columbus has a new Youth Services Director, Meg Carbon.

Statistics show that "Millennials" are using libraries much more than any generation before them.

Next Columbia County Library System Meeting:

Out July meeting will be held in Randolph, **Thursday**, July 12th at 9 a.m. (Note date change).
One item to discuss at our next meeting is advocacy.

Adjournment: President Hughes adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

 ^{7/12/18}
Betty Reiter, Secretary

5/21/2018