

Governor's Advisory Council on Libraries Thursday, April 12, 2018,
Minutes taken by Tracy Swaim, Alaska State Library

Present: Rosemary Austin, Rebecca Brown, Patience Frederiksen, Kay Jabusch, Patricia Linville, Rachel Nash, Karen Petersen, Deborah Rinio, Sara Saxton, Nancy Shafer, Ruth Terry, Arthur Walters, and Tracy Swaim

1. Call to order at 4:03 PM and Introductions were made.
2. Agenda reviewed and no additions or changes to agenda were made.
3. Approved minutes of June 28, 2017 meeting. [Linville/Petersen motioned to accept minutes as is, All in favor; None opposed]
4. Tracy explained his role as secretary and council “workhorse”. Ruth Terry volunteered to be chair. [Council accepted Ruth by acclamation]
5. There was NO Public comment.
6. Brief review of mission, policy statement, and bylaws. The statement from the Online Fact Sheet for the Council was read:
“The council advises the Alaska State Library on federal Library Services and Technology Act funds that are used to develop library services in Alaska.”
<https://gov.alaska.gov/services/boards-and-commissions/fact-sheet/?board=057>
7. Review and discussion of FY2018 grants awarded under current State Plan. Activities and associated grants were discussed.
 - Utah Talking Book Services supports 1000 Alaska patrons/46,000 checkouts
 - Most activities with no grants are new activities which will need to be promoted. State library staff will focus on these and work with libraries to develop proposals to meet these activities. Some possible ways to let librarians know would be as poster sessions at AkLA, through marketing, as part of podcasts or chats, via OWL trainings, and at other grant writing training sessions.
 - Tracy mentioned how the Alaska Digital Library could be used to help “publish” creative works by local authors.
 - A GoFundMe activity for Anchorage businesses was mentioned.

- State Library staff will assist libraries in digitizing small collection via the Community Curated Micro Collection Project.
- A mini-grant program to help libraries become disaster response centers is in the works. It was commented that the Red Cross, local police, and the State have personnel and resources which should be consulted.
- Activities which cannot be funded by LSTA include library construction, advocacy, and general (library) publicity.

8. News from IMLS

- FY2018 budget was funded at \$9M more in March
- IMLS not included in President's FY2019 Budget
- The Museum and Library Services Act was sunsetted two years ago. However, there is a reauthorization bill going through congress. Sen. Murkowski is a sponsor of this bill.

9. Alaska Library Community News Roundup

- Alaska Library Catalog is almost statewide. UAF and the Fairbanks Public Libraries will soon join. This will cover about 90% of Alaska's population.
- Alaska Library Network has been reorganized to include the Alaska Library Catalog, the Alaska Digital Archives, SLED, the Alaska Digital Library, and the OCLC General Services Agreement.
- A brief explanation of how OWL, School Bag, and Erate are used by Alaska libraries was given. OWL and School Bag pay for \$2,871,419 in broadband services.
- An OWL technology mini-grant program is offering all public libraries up to \$1500 to spend on upgrade technology for the public at their libraries.
- E-Rate is going great (\$93,977,008)!
- Library Development at ASL fully staffed. Last year there were two staff and this year there are four.
- New construction of libraries statewide halted due to budget cuts. ☹️

10. National Library Trends

- Cuts to funding are all too prevalent.
- Virtual Reality is hot now.
- Social issues such as Opioid use, homelessness, and mental health is big. In fact, there will be a grant to fund online training by speaker Ryan Dowd on Homelessness in the library. This is in response to a well-received presentation given at the recent AkLA conference. ALL librarians in the state will be able to access this online class.
- Libraries as “idea centers” is being talked about.
- Infographics and marketing are always popular topics.
- There is still a need for basic digital literacy and beginning technology training. We don’t want to leave anybody behind. “People can use an iPad but not a mouse.”
- Workforce development has been tried in a few places. Sometimes it is hard to get people to come to a program. We need to focus on finding the right program for the right person...and then how to motivate them to attend! The National Workforce Development Act now allows libraries to get funding. Anchorage has Job Labs.
- Customer service is important!

11. Announcements/More

- The Alaska Library Catalog (ALC) has changed the way we do business. Instead of getting materials from out of state, libraries are sharing within the state. This increased sharing is requiring us to reallocate funds to help with mailing costs. This is a good thing. Kudos to the ALC!
- A list of new, approved Interlibrary Cooperation (ILC) grants will be available in June.
- We will have another audioconference in the fall...probably in mid to late October.

12. Adjournment at 5:10 PM [Brown/Jabusch motioned: ALL approved; NONE opposed]