

MINUTES
STATE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
January 21, 2021

The State Library Board met via GoToMeeting virtual meeting on January 21, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Julia Ward, Executive Secretary to the State Librarian's Office, called the roll. State Library Board members present were: Ms. Laurie Gemmill Arp, President; Dr. Tracy Najera; Mr. Alan Hall; Ms. Janet Carleton; Ms. Theresa Fredericka; and Ms. Wendy Knapp, Secretary.

Visitors present were: Debbie McDonald, AWE Learning; Julia Perrone, Kent State University intern; Maggie O'Shea, Ohio Attorney General's Office; Don Yarman, Ohio Public Library Information Network; Erica Clay, INFOhio; Erika Carleski, Ohio State University intern; Michael Ridinger, INFOhio; and Michelle Francis, Ohio Library Council.

State Library staff members present were: Julia Ward, Jay Miley, Stephanie Herriott, Cindy Boyden, Michael Postlethwait, John Stewart, Marsha McDevitt-Stredney, Evan Struble, Anne Kennedy, Phil Willke, Jamie Pardee, Elissa Lawrence, Mandy Simon, Anne Libby, Erin Kelsey, Janet Ingraham Dwyer, Nicole Merriman, Tracy Grimm, David Green, Penelope Shumaker, Jen Johnson, Josh Jones, Shannon Kupfer-Trausch, Janice Bond, Ann Watson, and Eric Maynard.

Dr. Najera read the following statement to be entered into the minutes:

This is a meeting of the Board of the State Library of Ohio.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 12(A) of Substitute House Bill 404 as now in effect, and considering the surge in COVID-19 infections in the State of Ohio presently occurring, the State Library Board has determined that its meeting of January 21, 2021, shall be conducted by videoconference.

Not less than twenty-four hours prior to the scheduled time of convening the meeting (10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 21, 2021), the Board has provided notification of the meeting to the public and to any media that have requested notification of a meeting, the methods by which any person could determine the time, location, and manner by which the meeting will be conducted. Notice was given by posting on the State Library's public website, library.ohio.gov, that the regular meeting of the Board would be held January 21, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Public could "Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone [at the following link]: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/479130717>."

This meeting is not convened to deal with an emergency matter and no part of this meeting will constitute a "hearing" as defined in Ohio Revised Code § 119.01 or other hearing at which a person may present written or oral testimony on a matter before the public body.

OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Arp administered the oath of office to Ms. Fredericka. Ms. Fredericka was appointed to her first full, five-year term on the State Library Board by the State Board of Education at its January meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Najera moved (M-1-21) that the minutes of the December 10, 2020 Board meeting be approved.

Ms. Carleton seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Arp, Dr. Najera, Mr. Hall, Ms. Carleton, and Ms. Fredericka voting "aye."

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

LSTA REPORT

There was no LSTA Report.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Board Development—Financial Report Overview

Jamie Pardee, Chief Fiscal Officer, gave the Board an overview of State Library financial reports included in the meeting packet. She explained that the state fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30 and the federal fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30. The State Library's biennial budget is submitted on odd-numbered years. Ms. Pardee explained that the State Library's year-to-date spending is in line with up-to-date budget projections. Cost-saving measures enacted by the governor included cost-savings days for non-bargaining unit staff, resulting in a decrease of 3.8% of the allotted payroll. Ms. Pardee told the Board that the State Library received in \$1,056,209 in CARES Act funds, with \$966,000 in CARES Act Mini-Grants distributed to 322 libraries. The remainder of the funds were used for State Library personal protective equipment supplies, computers for staff to be able to effectively work from home, and headphones for staff who needed them for online meetings. Ms. Pardee explained that SEO Consortium dues are based on the operating expenses of member libraries. She said that the State Library issued libraries statewide delivery credits for the time that they were closed due to the pandemic. Federal funds were used to supplement those credits. Ms. Pardee explained that the \$512,376 that the State Library was told to put in a holding account has not been released for use, so the State Library has been operating without those funds. She shared that next year's Library Services and Technology Act allotment is \$5,256,514 which is a .2% increase over the previous allotment. Ms. Arp said that she appreciates the higher-level look at the financial information. She asked if the Board was interested in more discussion. The Board agreed that they would like to have more discussion of financial reports and the budget and that it would be valuable information for them to have. Ms. Arp asked for a deeper dive into the data at the next Board Meeting.

Ms. Knapp explained that during conversations with directors at other agencies, they recommended that she have a Board member attend budget testimony. She will let the Board know when she receives information about testimony. Mr. Hall said that he thinks that it is critical to have the Board provide support for the State Library to the legislature, particularly during this time. Dr. Najera agreed and said that they each need to do their part to highlight the value of the State Library. Ms. Fredericka added that the online databases have had a whole new importance this past year. Ms. Knapp said that she would email the Board any resources they needed to support the State Library. She thanked Marsha McDevitt-Stredney, Director, Marketing and Communications, for putting together the charts that were included in the packet.

Ms. Knapp spoke about the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan that was in the packet and shared that the State Library is starting to reframe the work they do through the lens of inclusion, trying to be as anti-racist, fair, and equitable in everything that they do. She explained that the new Library Leadership Ohio Advisory Committee has given direction to improve the application process and

reframe the mission of the program to include diversity, equity, and inclusion. Ms. Knapp pointed out that in the Plan's letter of approval, the State Library received mentions of good faith and best effort in the areas of recruitment and retention, and they will continue to do their best in that area. Ms. Arp said she appreciated the inclusion of the Plan in the packet and thought it was important to highlight the work that the State Library is doing in this area at future Board Meetings.

Intern Introductions

Ms. Knapp gave a brief history of Kent State University iSchool interns and shared that 20 students have completed their experience at the State Library in the past 10 years. Interns at the State Library have a rare opportunity to observe and participate in work at the state level and have contributed to many valuable programs over the years. Ms. Knapp introduced Julia Perrone, who is working with Janet Ingraham Dwyer, Library Consultant, on several State Library projects. Ms. Perrone holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Biology and Zoology and works at the Quantitative Ecology Lab in Kent State University's biology department. As lab manager, she is responsible for training and mentoring student employees. Ms. Perrone would like to work as a youth services librarian in a public library, where she can draw from her extensive STEM background to design and implement programming that will increase science literacy for children and teens.

Ms. Knapp then introduced Erika Carleski, who is working with Stephanie Herriott, Human Resources Manager. Ms. Carleski is currently a senior at The Ohio State University studying toward a bachelor's degree in Business/Human Resource Management with the Fisher College of Business. Erika has been working for the State of Ohio since she was eighteen years old at several agencies including The Ohio Department of Transportation and the Dean's Office at OSU's College of Engineering. She has always had a love for working with people and helping them make their lives better by solving problems and providing guidance. She loves that human resources comes with a variety of different experiences and is excited to see where this career path takes her. The Board welcomed the interns and thanked them for their valuable work.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Vice-President

Ms. Knapp called for nominations for the office of Vice-President of the State Library Board to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of former Board member Michael Merz.

Mr. Hall moved (M-2-21) that Tracy Najera be nominated for the office of Vice-President of the State Library Board effective January 21, 2021, for the remainder of the biennial term beginning July 1, 2019.

Ms. Carleton seconded the motion.

Mr. Hall moved (M-3-21) that the nominations be closed, a unanimous ballot be cast for Dr. Najera, and that she be declared elected to that office effective January 21, 2021, for the remainder of the biennial term beginning July 1, 2019.

Ms. Carleton seconded the motion. The motions passed by roll call vote with Ms. Arp, Dr. Najera, Mr. Hall, Ms. Carleton, and Ms. Fredericka voting "aye."

Deaf History Month Resolution

Dr. Najera moved (M-4-21) for adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio has designated the period beginning March 13 and ending April 15 as Ohio Deaf History Month; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Deaf History Month celebrates deaf history and the contributions of the hearing impaired and deaf community to society; and

WHEREAS, Recognition of Deaf History Month at the national level was initiated by two deaf employees at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, The State Library of Ohio has a longstanding partnership with the Ohio School for the Deaf, working together to provide information for and about people who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, Ohio's school, academic, public and special libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of Ohioans and provide excellent and invaluable service to library users regardless of age, ethnicity, disability or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, many libraries in Ohio and across America are celebrating Ohio Deaf History Month with a variety of special displays, programs, or events;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this day, January 21, 2021, the State Library Board proclaims Ohio Deaf History Month, March 13 – April 15, 2021, and encourages Ohio libraries to host deaf awareness activities during this month-long celebration, using closed captioning where available.

Ms. Carleton seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Arp, Dr. Najera, Mr. Hall, Ms. Carleton, and Ms. Fredericka voting "aye."

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion, Ms. Carleton moved (M-5-21) that the Board stand adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Arp, Dr. Najera, Mr. Hall, Ms. Carleton, and Ms. Fredericka voting "aye."

President

Secretary

WJK/jmw