

MINUTES
STATE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
October 15, 2020

The State Library Board met via GoToMeeting virtual meeting on October 15, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER

The business meeting was called to order at 10:02 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; Mr. Michael Merz, Vice-President; Dr. Tracy Najera; Mr. Alan Hall; Ms. Janet Carleton; and Ms. Wendy Knapp, Secretary.

Visitors present were: Don Yarman, Ohio Public Library Information Network; Erika Carleski, Ohio State University intern; Maggie O'Shea, Ohio Attorney General's Office; and Michelle Francis, Ohio Library Council.

State Library staff members present were: Julia Ward, Jay Miley, Marsha McDevitt-Stredney, Kirstin Krumsee, Phil Willke, Michael Postlethwait, Anne Libby, Elissa Lawrence, David Green, Nicole Brown, Nicole Merriman, Evan Struble, Stephanie Herriott, Jamie Pardee, Brenda Michel, Ann Watson, Janice Bond, Anne Kennedy, Jen Johnson, Josh Jones, and Cindy Boyden.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Merz moved (M-29-20) that the minutes of the July 16, 2020 Board meeting be approved.

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

Mr. Merz asked that the following statement be entered into the minutes:

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

The method of access of this meeting was given to the public on Wednesday October 7, 2020, by posting on the Library's website at library.ohio.gov. This included the following internet address of the meeting, meeting access code, and phone number for access:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/394576637>

United States: +1 (786) 535-3211

Access Code: 394-576-637

The meeting is being held electronically pursuant to authority granted by the General Assembly in Amended Substitute H.B. 197 in that it is occurring during the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020.

By choosing to conduct the meeting over the internet by GoToMeeting technology, the Board believes it has ensured that the public can observe and hear the discussions and deliberations of all the members of the public body, whether the member is participating in person or electronically.

This meeting does not include a "public hearing" as that term is used in Ohio Revised Code Ch. 119.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

LSTA REPORT

There was no LSTA Report.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Budget Update

Jamie Pardee, Chief Fiscal Officer, provided the Board with an update on the State Library budget. Ms. Pardee explained that the State Library submitted its budget on September 11. The budget analyst has done the initial technical review and asked some follow-up questions. Ms. Pardee said that the State Library asked for appropriations to be restored to the 2020 allotment. She explained that with the 90% appropriation that agencies were asked to submit, the State Library would not have the funds to remain in its current building. Ms. Knapp clarified that the State Library is not asking for an increase, but rather a restoration of funds. Ms. Pardee said that a lot of information has been released about the importance of libraries, so she hopes that will work in the State Library's favor. Ms. Arp asked about the timeline for the rest of the budget process. Ms. Pardee said that she thought she would be receiving an email soon to set up a meeting with Legislative Services Commission in November. She said that testimony will likely begin in March. Mr. Merz asked Ms. Pardee if she knew who the key legislators were in the budget process. Ms. Pardee said that she will find out. Dr. Najera asked if Ms. Pardee had a sense of when the Office of Budget and Management or the administration will be coming out with updated revenue projections. Ms. Pardee said that she hasn't seen any recent updates for the month of October. Dr. Najera said that tax projections have been coming in higher than projected, so maybe that is good news for agencies. Ms. Arp asked if the budget might be approved sooner since it was submitted earlier than previous years. Ms. Pardee explained that the State Library was in an earlier group than usual, and that the rest of the budget timeline should remain the same. Mr. Hall asked if different programs being part of the State Library's budget complicates the process. Ms. Pardee explained that the budget is submitted by program, so everything is explained well. Mr. Hall asked if anything was done to reduce the State Library's rent. Ms. Pardee explained that DAS Real Estate asked for a reduction, but the building owner has not accepted that. She said that the lease renews on July 1. Mr. Hall asked if the State Library pays rent on the SEO Center building. Ms. Pardee replied that they do not.

CARES Act Update

Evan Struble, Associate State Librarian for Library Development, presented the Board with an update on CARES Act funds. Mr. Struble explained that all of the State Library's allotted CARES Act funds have been expended. He said that 80 of Ohio's 88 counties received CARES Act Mini-Grants from the State Library. Mr. Struble drew the Board's attention to the fact that the K-12 library community, who was in great need of assistance, took advantage of the grant initiative. He thanked State Library staff who made the grant program possible. Three hundred twenty-two grants were awarded, some of them to libraries who have never received a grant from the State Library before. Mr. Struble told the Board that some lessons learned included removing barriers where possible, flexibility in how the money is spent is crucial, and using the grant program as a way to reach the K-12 community. Dr. Najera noted that of the eight counties who didn't receive grants, five were Appalachian counties. She asked the reason for that. Mr. Struble explained that it is a mix of libraries in those counties not applying or applying after the funds ran out. He said that the State Library can reach back out to libraries who didn't receive a grant and target future grants to them. Dr. Najera replied that there is a great need in that area. Mr. Hall asked what was done with the CARES Act funds from Washington not disbursed to libraries. Mr. Struble explained that the Institute of Museum and Library Services also disbursed CARES Act grants to libraries directly, and they also had a grant

program for museums. He also said that the State of Ohio disbursed CARES Act funds to public libraries in Ohio from its allotment. Ms. Arp thanked State Library staff for their work on the grant program and for removing barriers where possible.

Ms. Knapp gave the Board an update on recent State Library staff accomplishments and highlights. She explained that Tracy Grimm, Head, Circulation and Special Services, and Ann Watson, Associate State Librarian for Library Services, have set up a successful contact-free library material pick up for patrons on Wednesdays at the State Library. She also shared that Stephanie Michaels, Reference Librarian, earned her Level 2 Consumer Health Information Specialization (CHIS) as part of a program developed by the Medical Library Association (MLA) and National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM). Ms. Knapp said that she will be reaching out to the Ohio Department of Health to get information to help libraries interpret the results of OCLC's REALM project. She shared that the SEO Service Center has been working to lease space to Connected Nation and she would like the State Library to partner with them in the future. SEO is also working with member libraries on special projects to address issues that have arisen due to the COVID pandemic. Ms. Knapp also mentioned that Stephanie Herriott, Head, Employee Services, and other State Library managers have been working on a diversity, equity, and inclusion statement for the agency that will be approved by the Department of Administrative Services. She shared that she will be visiting MidPointe Library System virtually at the end of October. Ms. Knapp said that she and Mr. Struble had a conversation with a representative from the Governor's Office on Workforce Transformation about the State Library's Guiding Ohio Online (GOO) program. Mr. Struble explained to the Board that they gave background about the program and explained to the representative what the trainers do in libraries. He said that GOO aligns with the governor's priorities regarding broadband access in Ohio.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Consumer Advisory Committee Appointment

Ms. Watson presented the Board with a list of appointees to the State Library's Talking Book Advisory Committee, as well as their qualifications.

Mr. Merz moved (M-30-20) that the following persons be appointed to the State Library's Talking Book Consumer Advisory Committee for a three-year term, November 1, 2020 – October 31, 2023:

Sarah Hawke (Re-Appointment)
Annette Lutz (New Appointment)
Vicky Prahin (Re-Appointment)

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

State Library Board Nomination

Julia Ward, Executive Secretary to the State Librarian's Office, explained that the process has begun to secure nominations for the State Library Board. Because Mr. Merz is not seeking reappointment, the State Library Board will have a new member appointed after his term expires on December 31, 2020. She said that a call for nominations has been released and nominations are due to the State Library on October 28. The Board agreed that they will review nominations at the December Board meeting and send their top choice and a back up to the State Board of Education for consideration at

their January Board meeting. They decided that geographic diversity and library type are important considerations when choosing the future Board member.

Mr. Merz asked if there has been any news about the possible privatization of the Government Publishing Office. Kirstin Krumsee, Library Consultant, said she has not heard any news about that, but will try to find out the status before the next Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion, Mr. Merz moved (M-31-20) that the Board stand adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

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

President

Secretary

WJK/jmw