

MINUTES
STATE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
July 15, 2021

The State Library Board met July 15, 2021 in the Boardroom of the State Library, 274 East First Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201.

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: Mr. Alan Hall, Vice-President; Ms. Laurie Gemmill Arp; Ms. Janet Carleton; Ms. Theresa Fredericka; and Ms. Wendy Knapp, Secretary. Dr. Tracy Najera, President, was absent.

Visitors present were: Andrew Rowan, Ohio Attorney General's Office; Jay Smith, Ohio Library Council; and Mary Leffler, Logan-Hocking County District Library.

State Library staff members present were: Julia Ward, John Stewart, Jay Miley, Evan Struble, Anne Kennedy, Erin Kelsey, Marsha McDevitt-Stredney, Janet Ingraham Dwyer, and Elissa Lawrence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Arp moved (M-27-21) that the minutes of the May 20, 2021 Board meeting be approved.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

LSTA REPORT

Guiding Ohio Online Grants

Evan Struble, Associate State Librarian for Library Development, presented the Board with information about the Guiding Ohio Online (GOO) program. He explained that the program helps public libraries serve rural populations by placing a technology trainer in the library. This year is the eighth iteration of the GOO program, with three years funded by AmeriCorps and five years funded by LSTA. Mr. Struble introduced Mary Leffler, Director of Logan-Hocking County District Library, to speak about her library's participation in GOO. Ms. Leffler explained that the Logan-Hocking County District Library has participated in the GOO program since 2019. She shared that the median age of library staff is 40 and that they have diverse technological abilities. The trainer helps both patrons and staff in the library. Ms. Leffler said that the library has a partnership with the Department of Job and Family Services, and the technology trainer goes there as well. She shared that the trainer conducts classes and one-on-one training and is in constant demand. Feedback from library patrons has been very positive. Ms. Arp asked if libraries share technology trainers. Ms. Leffler explained that they would like to, but COVID-19 has made that more difficult. Mr. Hall asked what the framework was for the program and what limitations there are for applicants. Mr. Struble explained that applicants need to demonstrate their service to rural populations. Ms. Arp asked if the grant amounts were tied to population. Mr. Struble explained that hours and salary vary by region. Ms. Fredericka asked if participating libraries pool together best practices. Mr. Struble replied that there is a loose network of libraries that communicate, and that State Library staff works with libraries throughout the year.

Ms. Fredericka moved (M-28-21) that Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants from FFY21 funds be awarded to the following libraries in the specified amounts for the Guiding Ohio Online project, a Services to Targeted Populations grant, for the period of October 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.

1. Ada Public Library	\$23,520
2. Ashtabula County Library District	\$17,550
3. Cardington-Lincoln Public Library	\$12,852
4. Conneaut Public Library	\$16,125
5. Cuyahoga Falls Library	\$8,462
6. East Palestine Memorial Public Library	\$9,555
7. Guernsey County District Library System	\$6,900
8. Henderson Memorial Public Library	\$8,142
9. Jackson City Library	\$5,760
10. Kingsville Public Library	\$15,780
11. Logan-Hocking County District Library	\$9,686
12. Madison Public Library	\$9,000
13. Meigs County District Public Library	\$12,492
14. Pickerington Public Library	\$18,868
15. Putnam County Public Library	\$23,342
16. Salem Public Library	\$9,000
17. St. Clairsville Public Library	\$8,550
18. Tipp City Public Library	\$8,640

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

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Ms. Knapp provided the Board with updates on the State Library. She shared that the state budget has been signed by the governor and took effect July 1. The Imagination Library was moved back to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' budget. She explained that she would still like to make contact with the Imagination Library for a possible partnership. Ms. Knapp shared that the State Library will open to the public on September 7. Ms. Knapp explained that there have been complications with the transition to the new statewide delivery courier. There was a delay in awarding the contract, and the new courier had to transition in seven weeks rather than three months. She said there have been communication and delivery issues since the start of the contract. Ms. Knapp explained that the prior courier provided spotty service in the last two weeks of their contract. She told the Board that Jamie Pardee, Chief Fiscal Officer, has been wonderful about working through the issues. Ms. Knapp stressed that statewide delivery is a core service and very important to the State Library. Ms. Arp asked if Ms. Knapp was confident that the courier is capable of handling the contract. Ms. Knapp replied that they have been the courier for Georgia for 20 years and they understand the needs of libraries. Mr. Hall said he has been taking phone calls regarding delivery and has been directing people to fill out the customer service form. Ms. Arp asked if the State Library has been communicating with libraries about the situation. Ms. Knapp explained that communications have gone to the delivery listserv and library directors even before the July 1 start of the new contract.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update

Mr. Struble presented the Board with an update on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). He shared that the State Library received about \$4.5 million dollars from ARPA. Almost \$1 million of

that is going to supplement statewide delivery costs. Mr. Struble explained that a large portion of the funds will go to an outreach grant initiative for larger-scale projects. Grants will be offered in the categories of Outreach and Education, Community Connections, and Outreach Initiatives and proposals are due August 1. He shared that there is no match requirement. Mr. Struble said that open hours regarding ARPA were well attended and there is a recording available of guidelines. Ms. Fredericka asked when the ARPA grant program was announced and if it reached schools. Mr. Struble replied that it was announced in early June, and there was outreach to schools. Mr. Hall asked how much time the Board should allow at the September meeting for the award of the grants. Mr. Struble replied that he did not know, and that he sees from applications already submitted that great things are coming. Ms. Fredericka asked about the makeup of the evaluation team. Mr. Struble explained that both internal and external reviewers were being used. Ms. Arp commented that it is great that applications have already been submitted. Mr. Struble said that applications are coming from libraries the State Library hasn't seen apply for grants before. Ms. Carleton said she was excited to see what is recommended for funding. Mr. Struble replied that it is exciting to see the ideas that libraries have.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Board Meeting Schedule for FY 2023

Ms. Carleton moved (M-29-21) that the following State Library Board meeting schedule be approved for fiscal year 2023:

July 21, 2022
October 20, 2022
December 8, 2022
January 19, 2023
March 16, 2023
May 18, 2023

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion, Ms. Arp moved (M-30-21) that the Board stand adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

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

President

Secretary

WJK/jmw