

Meeting Minutes
MLA Legislative Committee
Wednesday, February 3, 2010
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Held Online

Attendees: Nick Dimassis, Michael Scott, Ann Hutton, Ann Walker-Smalley, Barbara Misselt, Bill DeJohn, Bob Boese, Chris Olson, Dale Carrison, Doug Johnson, Elaine Keefe, Jeanne DeMars, Jim Wikum, John Hunziker, Kathleen James, Kathy Fredette, Ken Behringer, Kim Edson, Linda Wadman, Lisa Finsness, Mark Ranum, Maureen Bell, Patricia Post, Robin Ewing, Ruth Solie, Suzanne Miller

Approval of Agenda: **Edson moved; Fredette seconded; Motion carried**

Approval of Minutes: Need to update attendee names to remove duplicate names; **Fredette moved for approval with changes; Misselt seconded; Motion carried**

Legislative Update (Elaine Keefe, President, Capitol Hill Associates)

- State Budget
 - Expected to be released sometime after State of the State Address on February 11, 2010.
 - Supreme Court to hear Governor's appeal of District Court's temporary injunction of ceasing funding of the supplemental nutrition program which was part of the unallotment process. Case to be heard March 15, 2010. May affect the proposed
- Bonding
 - On the fast track. Tomorrow, Senate version of the bonding bill to be released. Not sure what if any funding for Library Accessibility and Improvement Grants will be included.
 - Bill will come out of the Senate Capital Investment Committee tomorrow afternoon (2/4/2010), head to the Senate Finance Committee on Friday (2/5/2010), and head to the Senate Floor on Monday (2/8/2010). House Bill scheduled to come out of House Capital Investment Finance Division Committee on 2/9/2010.
 - Library Accessibility & Improvement Grants bill for \$10 million was heard last month in the House Cultural & Outdoor Resources Finance Division Committee and Rep. Alice Hausman, chair of the House Capital Investment Finance Division Committee, asked whether we had ever considered ranking our list of projects which might provide some motivation. Raised issue with CRPLSA and there seemed to be some enthusiasm for this. Elaine & Nick have an appointment scheduled with Rep. Hausman to explore further as to how this work.
 - Still be a competitive application but may need to have applications in & ranked before bill goes to Committee
 - Example of a similar process is with the Pollution Control Agency and local projects.
- Legislative Audit of Public Libraries
 - Listed publicly to be released in March 2010.
- Legacy Funding
 - House Cultural & Outdoor Resources Finance Division Committee working on a legislative guide for the expenditures made under the Legacy Amendment & issued a draft on January 21, 2010. Posted on the Committee's page at <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/comm/docs/housedraftlegguide12010.pdf>
 - Specific principle for Arts & Culture Heritage includes community education, museums, local arts councils, & libraries should be recognized as venues for arts and culture heritage experiences.

- Conversation with Speaker of the House Margaret Anderson Kelliher stated that the agenda in the first month has pretty much been set and they're hoping to consider the bonding bill, some sort of budget cutting bill, general assistance medical care fix, & a jobs bill for the first month.
 - Hutton mentioned that Senate Minority Leader Dave Senjem mentioned in a few public meetings that he and Senate Republicans are anticipating 2 bonding bills.

Construction Grants

- Dimassis mentioned that Capital Projects List is posted to the MLA Legislative Committee's page:
- <http://mnlibraryassociation.org/committees-subunits/legislative-committee/>
- Appointments with Legislators – as-needed basis

2010 Library Legislative Day

- Registration (Dimassis)
 - Link for registration has been posted to the MLA page: http://mnlibraryassociation.org/news-and-events/calendar/event10_0224/. Cost is \$20 and lunch is on your own. Morning briefing will be in the State Office Building instead of the Judicial Center.
 - Link will also be added to the Legislative Committee &
- MLA/MEMO Platform (Dimassis)
 - Platform is still in DRAFT form. Email to be sent out when final version is available (goal is week prior to Library Legislative Day). People will need to print their own copies
- Talking Points (Dimassis)
 - Talking Points are being worked on and will be posted to the Legislative Committee's page. Same process and goal as for the Platform.
- National Legislative Day (Ranum)
 - Appointments with legislators are being made and final list will be sent out
 - Sending out updates out about the Day when information is available
 - CapWiz can be used to send out alerts both for national & state/local legislative issues. Dimassis exploring this option for state legislative alerts.
 - Olson mentioned that Legislative Day will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 2010 after the ALA Conference which is typically the day most ALA attendees leave so encouraged folks to consider attending the Day if possible.

County Law Libraries in Public Libraries (Dimassis)

- A County Law Librarian had heard that a bill to merge County Law Libraries into local public libraries was rumored to be raised again this Legislative Session. Seems to be a non-issue and Dimassis will respond to this person.

Reports

- MLA Board of Directors (James)
 - Conference planning is happening and a site visit is scheduled for 2/5/2010.
- State Library Services (Miller)
 - Hoping for a technical amendment to allow for rollover language of the Legacy Funds as well as funding for library construction
 - Rollover language amendment would need to be part of some other bill
 - Waiting for Legislative Auditor's report
- MINITEX (DeJohn)
 - No Report
- MEMO (Finsness)
 - Working on talking points for Platform
- Public Regional Libraries (CRPLSA)
 - Misselt reported that CRPLSA met 1/27-29, 2010 in St. Cloud.
 - Focused on updates to the RLBS formula and Legacy Projects

- Legacy Projects Update (Ranum)
 - Read & comment on the Arts & Culture Heritage 10 & 25 year plan. Link on www.crplsa.org
 - Hutton mentioned there is quite a bit of information about Legacy on crplsa.org. Search “ACHF”
- Multitype Regional Libraries (MTLD)
 - Solie reported that the Multitype met 1/14-15, 2010 in St. Cloud.
 - Doing a monthly newsletter that continues the Things on a Stick program
 - Walker Smalley reported considerable discussion on a Futures Initiative for MN libraries, especially in light of current state fiscal situation
 - Invited representatives from various groups from MN libraries, including folks new to the profession as well as those with more experience
- Telecommunications (Carrison and Werner)
 - No Report

Adjournment: **Scott moved adjournment; Boese seconded @ 10:53 AM.**