

Meeting Minutes
MLA Legislative Committee
Wednesday, April 7, 2010
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Held Online

Attendees: Nick Dimassis, Michael Scott, Elaine Keefe, Ann Hutton, Ann Walker-Smalley, Barbara Misselt, Bill DeJohn, Bob Boese, Cecilia Boone, Chris Olson, Dale Carrison, Dayle Zelenka, Doug Johnson, Elaine Keefe, Jim Weikum, John Hunziker, Kathleen James, Kathy Fredette, Ken Behringer, Kim Edson, Kirsty Smith, Linda Wadman, Lisa Fisness, Marian Rengel, Mark Ranum, Mary Lukkarila, Mary Mehsikomer, Maureen Bell, Mike Bloomberg, Patricia Post, Peg Warner, Robin Ewing, Ruth Solie

Approval of Agenda (with additions noted below): **Edson moved; Post seconded; Motion carried**

- Dimassis added *St. Cloud Public Library* as the new A. under VII. 2010 *Library Legislative Forum* and moved *Virtual Attendance*, the former A. to a new C.

Approval of Minutes: **Zelenka moved for approval; Boese seconded; Motion carried**

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

- State Budget
 - Governor signed budget bill, referred to as Phase 1: Everything except Health & Human Services & K-12 Education (\$313 million)
 - Significance to libraries
 - Cut of \$205,000 in 2nd year of biennium (FY2011) as a permanent cut. Replaces proposed cuts of \$95,000 in FY2010 and \$362,000 in FY2011
 - \$105 million cut to LGA & CPA. This is down about from proposed \$250 million.
 - Short discussion about MOE recertification.
 - Other savings that reduce deficit:
 - \$147 million – savings from GMAC bill
 - \$408 million for medical assistance from the Federal Government
 - Not a done deal but projections are that this will happen
 - Other “phases” discussed in March meeting not yet introduced.
- Legacy Funding
 - Department of Education working on carryover language.
 - Short discussion held regarding carryover.
- Legislative Audit of Public Libraries
 - Was released & heard in front of Rep. Murphy’s committee by Legislative Audit staff. MDE provided with response
 - Four recommendations:
 - Eliminate the Multitype Library Systems and move function and funding in the regional public library systems

- State Library Services should work more closely with regional public library systems to address critical needs and issues.
- Legislature should require State Librarian to issue a biennial state-of-the-state report of public libraries to the appropriate Legislative Committee by January 1 of the second year of the biennium
- Tweaking of verification for MOE to include data from State Auditor's office and MDE's annual survey
- Post discussed Library Futures Initiative proposed by the Multitypes prior to the OLA report with two groups:
 - Steering Committee made up of representatives from across the MN library community with experience and create a venue for the futurists. Invitations being sent out to various MN library organizations in April.
 - Futurists group chosen by Steering committee made up of newer library staff (the future generation)
 - The initiative was discussed at length. Various viewpoints presented on whether the Initiative should stay focused on the future and not fold in the OLA report. Further discussion to happen.

Email Lobbying Effort(s) -- CapWiz (Dimassis)

- Thanks to everyone who sent in letters to legislators about Minitex funding.

2010 Library Legislative Forum

- St. Cloud Public Library
 - Plan to hold it again possibly in St. Cloud.
- Registration Fee
 - Was \$40 last year
 - Reduce cost if possible
- Virtual attendance
 - Could use webinar software from MLA
 - Good response to having a virtual attendance option

National Legislative Day

- Past chair of Legislative Committee can be reimbursed up to \$750 (same as Councilor)

Reports

- MLA Board (Kathleen James, Pres.)
 - Communication & Membership committees up & running with new initiatives
 - Convening the MEMO/MLA Steering Committee as agreement expires in Fall 2010
- State Library Services (Suzanne Miller, State Librarian)
 - No report
- MINITEX (Bill DeJohn, Director)
 - Presented by Nick Dimassis
 - Thank you for contacting legislators on behalf of Minitex 3.4% decrease in FY2011

- Running radio spots for ELM on MPR and KS95; will run an exclusive MnKNOWS add on the KS95 listener website
- Minitex staff conducting webinars around the state
- MEMO (Lisa Finsness, MEMO Legislative Chair)
 - Read part of a report from Dawn Nelson, MEMO President that multitypes are important, especially for schools
- Public Regional Libraries (Barbara Misselt, Chair, CRPLSA)
 - CRPLSA meeting at the end of April 2010
 - Busy with Legacy projects
 - RLBSA Formula Change will not move forward as 11 of 12 regions approved. Needed to be unanimous.
- Multitype Regional Libraries (Ruth Solie, Chair, Multitype Directors)
 - Met at the end of March/beginning of April and most of meeting spent discussing OLA report, particularly the part focused on multitypes
 - Elaine Keefe & Suzanne Miller attended
- Telecommunications (Peg Werner)
 - Legislation moved through Legislature to set up a new Broadband Commission to carry forth the work outlined by the Governor's Broadband Task Force
 - Stimulus money has been coming into state to phone companies to extend broadband beyond current areas.

Adjournment: **Zelenka moved adjournment, Post seconded at 11:46 AM**