

Meeting Minutes
MLA Legislative Committee
Wednesday, June 2, 2010
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Held Online

Attendees: Nick Dimassis, Michael Scott, Elaine Keefe, Ann Walker-Smalley, Bill DeJohn, Cecilia Boone, Chris Olson, Dawn Nelson, Jim Weikum, John Hunziker, Ken Behringer, Kim Edson, Linda Wadman, Marian Rengel, Mary Lukkarila, Mary Mehsikomer, Nancy Walton, Patricia Post, Peg Werner, Robin Ewing, Ruth Solie

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

Approval of Minutes: **Werner moved for approval; Edson seconded; Motion carried**

Legislative Update (Keefe)

- Session Recap
 - Library Accessibility & Improvement Grants were approved by the Legislature but line-item vetoed by the Governor
 - i. Possibility of another bonding bill in the next session
 - Shift from 73/27 to 70/30 for this biennium as part of budget balancing bill
 - Legacy carryover amendment was passed to carryover
 - Smaller cut to LGA/CPA but will still affect libraries
 - Technical fix on library maintenance of effort was passed
 - OLA report was released but no legislative action has been taken
 - Bill that incorporated the Broadband Taskforce's recommendations so now the goals are in the law. Set up a taskforce that Commissioner of Commerce must appoint and includes a member from the library community
- Written report will be sent out later

MLA/MEMO Legislative Steering Committee (Dimassis)

- Met on May 27, 2010
 - Discussed contract with Capitol Hill Associates (CHA) that expires August 31, 2010
 - Dimassis answered question about a formal evaluation of CHA: has been done in a variety of ways.
 - Suggestion to expand signatories on the contract
 - Discussed contract with MLA/MEMO Letter of Agreement that also expires August 31, 2010
 - Discussed OLA Report
 - Concern about this being part of the Steering Committee's work. Explained that was only brought up as it has been proposed as a topic at the Legislative Forum, not that Committee would be developing policy
- Dimassis presented a timeline for the work of the Steering Committee
 - Suggestion that timeline say that feedback on OLA report for Legislative Forum

2010 Library Legislative Forum (Scott)

- Presented ideas for Forum with a focus on a budgeting year
 - Potential ideas for forum: State Budget, Legacy Funding, Broadband Initiative, OLA Report, Advocacy
 - Add RLTA & to the list of budget discussion
 - Suggestion about something coming from the Library Futures Initiative
 - Additional discussion on advocacy including potential ways to gather the stories that are out there
- Working with Erin at Non-Profit Solutions to get food and registration set up

National Legislative Day (Dimassis for Ranum)

- We have appointments with 5 of 10 legislators
- More information will be forthcoming
- Six people committed to attending

Library Futures Initiative (Post)

- Steering Committee met on May 14th in St. Cloud with 14 people in attendance
- Donna Ray Shepard facilitated
- Will meet again June 9, 2010 in St. Cloud
- Executive Committee established, consisting of Ann Walker Smalley, Mark Ranum, Patricia Post, & Orrin Ausen (Bethany Lutheran College)
- Hope to have application for futurists in July and they'd begin work in the fall for 6-9 months

Reports

- MLA Board (Robin Ewing)
 - Presented with MLA auditor's report
 - Developing slate of candidates for MLA elections – still need a Legislative Chair
 - Conference planning is underway
- State Library Services (Nancy Walton)
 - No one designated as lead without a State Librarian
 - No posting for State Librarian position
- MINITEX (Bill DeJohn)
 - No report
- MEMO (Mary Mehsikomer)
 - In the process of looking at responsibilities of MEMO Legislative Chair
 - Looking ways at to get more involvement from membership
 - Suggested adding Telecommunications/Internet Access Equity Aid for schools to discussion about the state budget at Legislative Forum
- Public Regional Libraries (Peg Werner)
 - Meeting at the end of July 2010 – big topic will be the upcoming legislative session
 - Appreciative for carryover language for Legacy funds for libraries

- Multitype Regional Libraries (Ruth Solie)
 - Next meeting is in July 2010
 - Primary focus is on the *Things on a Stick* monthly newsletter
 - Facilitated the first meeting of the Library Futures Initiative Steering Committee

- Telecommunications (Peg Werner)
 - The Broadband Initiative looks to moving forward with another committee that seems to be including a librarian
 - Feel that any discussion at the Legislative Forum that includes a discussion about RLTA should include a discussion about Equity Aid for schools and was it was mentioned.

Adjournment: **Scott moved adjournment, Ewing seconded at 11:02 AM**