

WINDING RIVERS LIBRARY SYSTEM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

PRESENT: Catherine Beyers, George Brandt, Loren Caulum, David Eddy, Wayne Gates, Clara Johnson, Myrna Kelley, Mary E. Larson, Nancy Lerum, Sue Lindahl, Frank Nicosia, Elizabeth Nutter, Marilyn Pedretti, Gina Rae, Karen Thayer, Jane Walczak, John Wenum.

EXCUSED: Louise Donohue, Vern Olson.

ABSENT: Karen Dahl.

STAFF & GUESTS: Kristen Anderson, Charles Clemence, Randy Dagnon, Kelly Krieg-Sigman (La Crosse Public Library), David Polodna, Marcia Sarnowski.

1. Call to Order/Open Meeting Notice Certification: The meeting was called to order by President Brandt at 6:38 pm.

2. Roll Call: Roll call was taken as indicated above.

3. Approval of Minutes: Motion by Frank Nicosia, seconded by David Eddy, to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2010 meeting as presented. Carried.

4. Reports

4.1 Approval of Bills & Budget Update: President Brandt presented the bills and Polodna and Sarnowski answered questions from trustees about specific expenditures. Motion by Catherine Beyers, seconded by Nancy Lerum, to approve the bills as presented. Carried. The budget report was then considered. Motion by Wayne Gates, seconded by Myrna Kelley, to accept the budget report. Carried.

4.2 LPL 2009 Annual Report: Kelly Krieg-Sigman introduced the annual report, asked for any questions relating to it, and promised that WRLS trustees would continue in the future to receive a copy. She then reported on the likely financial challenges that the resource library will face from the city budget process, emphasizing that the LPL board has made a commitment to keeping all facilities open the same hours, continuing to build collections, and to provide adequate support to the archives department. The promotional DVD "Serve, Preserve, Share" was then shown.

4.3 Director's Report: Polodna reported that the health insurance premiums for 2011 have been released and while one provider lowered the rates by nearly 2%, the other increased theirs by over 14%. Given the new support policies passed at the last meeting, these rates will bode well for the WRLS budget but place additional pressures on some staff.

WRLS has applied for three Library Service and Technology Act grants for 2011: one a special needs grant to address the needs of those with hearing loss, one to provide a more user friendly search interface to the WRLSWEB catalog, and one to continue the support for Ancestry.com. The total grant request is \$56,050; awards will be announced in November. Polodna introduced the article on the demands faced by small, rural libraries. Brandt noted how well the

article brought home the level of challenge these directors face. A survey report showing the audit costs of various library systems in Wisconsin was distributed. Polodna pointed out that WRLS pays the lowest fees of any system that responded to the survey.

Polodna concluded his report by informing the board that effective April 15, 2011, he would be retiring. The personnel committee has already begun some preparations for the transition.

4.4 Public Comments or Topics for Discussion at Future Meetings: Jane Walczak asked that the board discuss at the next meeting the possibility of moving the starting time for meetings up 1/2 hour.

5. Revisited Business

5.1 Action Plan Survey Responses: The written report of comments from member libraries about the needs they would like the system to address was introduced. Polodna noted that due to his upcoming retirement he would not be moving to complete a revision of the Action Plan by the end of 2010 because it would not be fair to a new director to be presented a plan for which he or she did not have input. Consequently the survey responses are a first step in gathering adequate information to help the board and staff shape the future of the system. Subsequent efforts will be to enrich the scope of information relating to the ultimate revision of the plan.

6. New Business

6.1 Premium Only Plan: As per the decision of the board at the July meeting, documents describing and supporting a Premium Only Plan for WRLS were presented. The plan will be managed internally and is limited to health insurance premiums exclusively. Motion by Wayne Gates, seconded by Jane Walczak, to approve the plan and authorize the president to sign and the secretary to witness the adoption agreement. Carried.

6.2 WRLS Annual Plan to the State: The annual plan is a compliance document, required for the system to receive funding for the following year. Motion by John Wenum, seconded by Karen Thayer, to adopt the plan and authorize the president and director to sign it. Carried.

6.3 Next Meeting Date: The next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on December 1, 2010 at the La Crosse Public Library. It will be preceded by the holiday reception at 6:00 pm. The board discussed having Bobby Levinger perform on the piano for the reception and agreed that an honorarium of \$50 would be offered.

7. Adjournment: Motion by John Wenum, seconded by Jane Walczak, to adjourn. President Brandt adjourned the meeting at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Polodna, Recorder