

NETWORK ADVISORY COUNCIL (NAC)
Tuesday, March 14, 2017
Helena, Montana

ATTENDEES:

Council Members: Chair Tracy Cook, Colet Bartow, Matthew Beckstrom, Connie Behe, Barry Brown, Janeen Brookie online, Barry Brown, Dana Carmichael online, Carly Delsigne, Joanne Didrikson, Eva English online, Aaron LaFromboise online, Sarah McClain, KellyAnne Terry, and Laura Wight.

MSL Staff: Jennifer Birnel online, Jo Flick online, Pam Henley online, Lauren McMullen online, Cara Orban, Suzanne Reymer online, Jennie Stapp, Marlys Stark

Guests: None.

Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Member Didrikson and seconded by Member Wight to approve the November 10, 2016 minutes as presented and the motion passed.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

State Librarian Stapp discussed the status of various bills that might have some impact on libraries. She explained the background of the state aid bill extending the sunset date from July 1, 2017 to July 1, 2023. Representative Garner carried the bill, which passed unanimously out of House Appropriations and then passed the House floor 91 to 7. A hearing was held in Senate Finance and Claims in early February and has been sitting since while staff and other parties are working with the committee members to get it to pass. Senator Sesso is carrying it in the Senate.

HB81 authorizes the Secretary of State's office to produce the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) in an easily printable electronic format but no hard copy versions.

Another bill likely to pass involves the use of service animals in public businesses and creates more authority for staff to ask people using service animals questions to clarify need and requirements.

Representative Bryce Bennett has a bill to allow photographs and streaming video of all public meetings that will likely pass.

HB563 is the Governor's early literacy program with a more modest request this session compared to last and would provide grants to school districts through Office of Public

Instruction (OPI). Districts could determine how to spend the funds and create partnerships. The bill seems unlikely to pass.

HB2, the budget bill, includes all general fund, proprietary funds, coal severance tax (CST) funds and the authority to spend federal funding. MSL falls under the subcommittee for education and had a very positive budget hearing compared to others. The Governor proposed a five percent across the board cut in operations and the commission looked at steps to meet those cuts in February. The CST appropriation is less than the previous appropriation but more than was actually spend because of the mid biennium cuts.

The Natural Resources subcommittee looks at CST funding also. MSL, DNRC and Ag share an account with has no current parameters on how to distribute the funding among those three. Over the years, the MSL percentage has decreased because the other two use these funds to pay personnel and those costs go up every year. The subcommittee wants to change the statute to put in specific percentages for each of the three. MSL currently gets about 14 percent and the new language would provide 17 percent. House Appropriation took action so the coal severance tax amount is in the budget.

Typically MSL knows the amount of the LSTA award for this meeting and can discuss that budget. The award currently is about 20 percent less than the previous year but the indications are that this amount will likely increase.

Senator Tester is receiving the James Madison award from ALA. Live stream of the event will be available. Ann Eubank nominated him.

DRAFT LSTA EVALUATION 2013-1017 REPORT:

The council members reviewed the executive summary and discussed it. There were several items that council members want reworded or were not accurate and discussed those items.

Moving forward, Cara and Tracy will split the evaluation and present it to library development staff for discussion. They will use the evaluation to respond to it and to use it as a framework to start the next five-year plan. Tracy will submit questions to pinpoint library needs and goals. The next plan is due to IMLS June 30 so there will be a work session meeting in April.

NAC WORK PLAN AND OPERATING GUIDELINES:

NAC members completed an exercise that Library Development staff had previously participated in with a question or theme to work on. Tracy will compile responses and compare to staff ideas. Main areas of discussion were: 1.) Where do NAC members wish they could focus their energies? 2.) What values do those of us who work on library development share? 3.) How do we know we have achieved 'libraries are leaders

in creating thriving communities' which is part of the Library Development Study Task Force Vision Statement. They broke that statement up and defined parts of it.

Between the second and third exercise, the council recessed at 12:30 p.m. for lunch. The meeting resumed at 12:35 p.m.

The council felt that the new work plan committee could work on the operating guidelines for the council as the plan can't be done without guidelines. All members were asked to pick the top three things they thought should be worked on this year and submit that electronically.

Volunteers were requested to help with the guidelines and then work plan with the goal to have each type of library represented.

PLANNING FOR 2017 NAC RETREAT:

The retreat will be August 1 and the council will go over the guidelines and do a 'theory of change' exercise and develop a work plan.

FOLLOW-UP ON DATA DRIVEN IMPLEMENTATION WORK:

The Library Leadership Institute will be in July and the facilitators are previous participants. The format is peer-to-peer training this year. The project report target is the April commission meeting but might be in June.

The council reviewed and commented on several documents regarding the various sub-groups.

CREATING PUBLIC VALUE:

The council were going to discuss whether several library development initiatives add value and what would happen if they disappeared and further if they help with any of the Library Development Task Force Initiatives. Due to time constraints, the majority of the initiatives moved to a later meeting but they did discuss OCLC Group Services.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There were none made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There was no public available and the chairman did not solicit public comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.