

NCPLDA General Membership Meeting

Friday, March 27, 2015

New Hanover County Public Library, Wilmington, NC

Ross Holt called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

Ross reported on Board Action from yesterday's meeting:

Treasurer Jane McAllister has permission to cut off subscription to Ancestry for the library that has not paid its bill.

The Board decided to establish a Workforce Development Task Force to examine our roles in workforce development in our communities. Jennifer Pratt will send a survey to each library to evaluate current activities.

Jody Risacher reported from the Nominating Committee that there are two positions on the State Library Commission that need to be filled. Mary Sizemore has been nominated to continue with a second term that will expire 6/30/18. Elizabeth House moved and Catie Roche seconded to approve this nomination. Passed by acclamation. Suzanne White has been nominated to fill the last 2 years of Dan Barron's second term that will expire 6/30/17. Carol Wilson moved and Margaret Marshall seconded to approve this nomination; the motion carried.

Cal Shepard presented the State Library Report. Slides will be sent to the membership.

Jill Morris presented the NC Live update via Skype:

Annual Opportunity fund: Resources Advisory Committee set aside a portion of funds (4%) Reviewed 8 options to spend funds (\$150,000) Decided to hold off for this year, see where needs are and have a little more \$ for next year. Will commit up to \$25,000 as matching for new HomeGrown Ebook content. Collection Development group will evaluate all current resources.

OCLC: extensive negotiations with OCLC, Carolina Consortium and State Library, found that each COI was not that interested in maintaining relationships. No \$ in budget and decided to let it drop. If you catalog in OCLC, holdings will not show up in WorldCat.org unless pay for Discovery option. If you pay for an ILL subscription, workflow will be pretty much the same unless workflow is integrated from ILS where patrons click a button to initiate ILL request. Tim Bucknall has put together a good FAQ sheet, will be passed on to us.

Organization/Staffing update: Strong financial position. Exec. Director search is underway, actively reviewing applications, hope to announce next steps in process soon. Letter of Determination from IRS for NC Live Foundation, can now begin using 501(c)3, 2 new systems librarians one is Josh Wilson, "stolen" from the State Library. Working on revising video site and making interface improvements. Hosted proxy service for all libraries, may be able to extend service to libraries to streamline access to other resources, same login procedures

Questions: Ross mentioned that there were new directors present who might not understand the HomeGrown Ebook model – voluntary contribution on annual basis. 95% of libraries pledged at least \$250, have actually received about \$58,000. Going to do another pledge drive to increase size of collection and continue unlimited simultaneous access. Publishers will also help us with author events. Usage data available through NCLive/BiblioBoard. Interface will be changing.

NCLA update: Dale Cousins. Leadership Institute: 23 emerging leaders will reconvene in April to finalize projects and get ready for biannual conference. ALA National Legislative Day will be May 5, scaled back presence this year but will still send student delegation. NCLA Biennial Conference will be titled **Make it Matter** and is scheduled for Greensboro Oct. 20-23. Call for proposals/vendors this week. 105 sessions planned. NCLA Awards information up on website, please consider. Margaret Maron and Charlaine Harris will be concluding speakers. ALA Pres. Courtney Young will present the Ogilvy lecture. Working on offsite locations for special events: Endowment Dinner at Historic Blandwood, All-Conference Reception at Greensboro Historical Museum. Opened library in El Salvador, working with Contextos, they will come to conference. Past Presidents' Council will meet in April in Wilmington as well as NCLA Executive Council. Wanda Brown is chair of Nominations Committee and slate of officers for next Biennium will be released soon. Ross heartily endorsed our involvement in NCLA and the conference.

Legislative Advocacy: Ross gave some history of NCPLDA and its role in establishing and continuing State Aid to Public Libraries. Reminded the membership that our lobbyist is paid for by donations from the different Friends of the Library groups across the state. Strategy has been to work through committee chairs to get State Aid \$ increased in budget. Sometimes this leads to a “robbing Peter to pay Paul” scenario and forcing hard choices within DCR. This year, Jason Saine from Lincoln County is going to introduce a separate bill in the House to increase State Aid by 2.5 million. Once it is formally introduced, we will be notified so we can begin contacting our local legislators and ask them to co-sponsor and support.

Introduced Theresa Kostrzewa who joined us via Skype. We didn't get cut but we want more money in the State Budget. Need to make pie bigger...this happens at the highest level. In the House, this is Speaker Tim Moore of Kings Mountain and Nelson Dollar of Wake County. Theresa wants to work with Dale to reach out to Nelson ASAP. Jason Saine is important, will be introducing the bill. “Whereas” clauses will be included discussing importance of libraries in NC. She wants everyone to ask House members to sign on to the bill AND to pledge support to make it happen, for example go directly to Speaker and ask for more availability. Carol asked if the Speaker signs on to a bill or is he above it. Theresa instructed her to ask him to increase the availability of DCR funds to make this increase for libraries possible. Cal asked if the DENR/DCR merger would have a negative impact on our situation. Theresa said that it would increase the pie but we need to focus on our part. Ruth Ann asked what she should say to Rainn Brown. Theresa said to let her know what is going on and ask her to sign on and ask to increase availability. Bill provides something tangible that says good things about library. We could potential get more money without it but it makes process more visible. Senate bill will be second. Let Senators know that this is happening in House, and to please provide support when the time comes. Dan asked what to say to Josh Dobson or Senator Hice. She said to continue to have them come to local library and make them understand what we would do with more money. Ross asked about timeline for this bill. Filing deadline is Wed. April 8. House is taking a Spring Break this year week of April 6, they will be gone during the filing deadline. Usually have 24 hours of bill being filed to co-sign. Means we have 1 week to talk to our legislators to get them on board...tell them this is coming during Spring Break Week and that Jason Saine is the sponsor. Elizabeth asked if there is a benefit to letting the legislators know that we are now on the County Commissioners' goal list. Theresa suggested we should not bring it up at all because they might consider it another unfunded mandate. Just ask them to do what they can do for us

– co-sign and support the bill. Unless you think it would be meaningful to your legislator. Ross asked whether there was a cap in the formula this year, there is not. Urban/Rural conflict is not just State Aid, it's going across many issues. Suzanne asked if it would be helpful for other advocates to speak to state legislators this week asking them to co-sign the bill...answer an emphatic YES. The more people they hear from, the better. Dan asked about the Governor's budget. It has no legal binding, the real work is done in the legislature. Ross asked about the bill affecting sales tax exemptions for nonprofits, lowering the cap. May affect hospitals more than libraries.

Secretary of Transportation, Tony Tata is an author. A.J. Tata is his pen name. Might be able to get some PR traction from this...publicize his books. Dale said he has come to 3 Wake Co Literacy events as Governor's spokesperson. Add to Facebook / Twitter to get some mileage. Anything we do to help with goal of helping kids read well by 3rd grade would be great to publicize.

Announcements

Will not try to reschedule Library Legislative Day, will be focusing on local efforts instead. Workforce Development Task Force: Jane Blackburn and Mary Sizemore have agreed to co-chair. Ruth Ann is attempting to reach all e-Inc and NC Digital libraries to discuss some issues and an upcoming meeting. Thanks to Harry and New Hanover County staff for all their help and hospitality.

Harry Tuchmayer moved to adjourn and Margaret Marshall seconded. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.