

Wolfner Advisory Council

November 18, 2011

Minutes

Members Present: Wilma Chestnut, Melinda Cook, Denise Cope, Mary Dingus, Mildred Eads, Dan Flasar, Raymond (Chip) Hailey, Russell McCampbell, DeAnna Noriega, Darrel Vickers

Staff Present: Margaret Conroy, Natalie Junkin, Elizabeth Lang, Richard Smith, Velma Steinman, Deborah Stroup

Members Absent: Terrie Arnold, Amanda Dovin, Zeze Miller

Flasar called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Council members and staff were introduced. Richard Smith, Director of Wolfner Library introduced new Council member, Darrel Vickers. Vickers has replaced Alicia Starner as the representative for the Missouri Council of the Blind.

Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2011

Flasar called for a motion to approve the minutes at this meeting due to a quorum not being present at the July 15, 2011 meeting. Noriega so moved. Eads seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of July 15, 2011

Flasar called for a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. McCampbell so moved. Hailey seconded. Motion carried.

State Librarian's Report – Margaret Conroy, State Librarian

The Secretary of State's Office will be submitting its budget to the Governor. There is a possibility of a \$400 million dollar state income shortfall in FY 13.

Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding is received by the State Library on an annual basis and is spent according to a five year plan. The State Library has contracted with University of Missouri to perform an assessment and evaluation of the LSTA 2008-2012 Five Year Plan, and planning is underway for the next five year plan (2013-2017).

Conroy attended the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) meeting in October. Key topics of discussion were access to e-books, digital content, and how libraries are moving from a print-based to an electronic-based environment. Ruth Scovill, Acting Director for the National Library Service (NLS) spoke about the changes at NLS. She said NLS is developing BARD apps for I Phones, and also hopes that Web Braille will be on BARD in January. Scovill also said NLS is dedicated to being able to accept locally produced books that meet minimum standards into the BARD system.

Conroy reported that the Georgia Public Library Service has received a planning grant from IMLS to research the feasibility of an open source software-based automation system which could be used by all regional libraries. This would allow libraries several options such as to share one large database, combine into regional shared systems or to remain as they are with their own locally controlled system with greater connectivity to other regional libraries.

Director's Report – Richard Smith, Director of Wolfner Library

Wolfner Library has partnered with Keystone Systems, Inc. to allow patrons access to locally recorded books from the local catalog. The program is called "SHELF", for Shared Electronic Files. Keystone Systems hosts the books and makes them available for download through WolfPAC. Currently three other states' locally recorded books are also available to Wolfner patrons through SHELF, with more states expected to join. There are 880 titles available for download.

Smith said Wolfner would like to hire a consultant to help develop a comprehensive long range plan. The long range plan fulfills a requirement in the *Revised Standards and Guidelines for Library Service for Network Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped*. Patrons and the Council will be asked for their input on what they think Wolfner should be doing five years in the future.

Smith read from *Alternatives for Future Operations for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped*, an online document published by the Library of Congress. **Smith will send the URL for this document to Council members.**

Smith asked the Council for their suggestions on how to receive input for the long range plan from users in addition to conducting a sample survey by mail or email. Flasar suggested conducting the survey via telephone. Smith suggested using video conferencing or computer webinars. The Council would be used as pre-group before sending the survey out to patrons.

Flasar suggested the Council have a listserv to discuss various things including meeting agendas.

Eads suggested more information be added under the main headings on the agenda. The Council will be better prepared for the meeting and enable the members to better participate in the discussions.

Smith announced there are five positions open on the Council. He asked Council members to have anyone they knew of wishing to serve on the Council send him a letter of interest and a resume of their qualifications.

An upgrade cartridge out for the digital player is being sent out next month. Notice of the upgrade will be in the newsletter. Hailey commended Smith on letting patrons know about the upgrade.

The Friends of Wolfner Library donated money for more Braille maps of Jefferson City. The maps will also be done in large print.

SHELF and Volunteer Program – Deborah Stroup, Volunteer Services Coordinator

Stroup gave a demonstration of the SHELF program, and reported that three new books have been posted for download.

Stroup reported the Volunteer Program has two new volunteers.

Summer Reading Program and Youth Outreach – Elizabeth Lang, Youth Services Librarian

Lang attended two outreach events this fall. They were the MO-CASE (Special Education Administrators' Conference) and the Crucial Early Years Institute. Between the two events, she distributed over 250 information packets regarding Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library's services. This spring she plans to attend four more events.

The 2011 general theme for the summer reading program was "*World Cultures*". The slogan for young readers was "*One World, Many Stories*" and the teen slogan was "*You Are Here*". There were 58 patrons participating this year and 37 completed the program. Every participant who reported a reading time received a participation prize. Participants who met all of the reading goals for their age group were entered into their group's grand prize drawing. The grand prize for each age group was 10 Playaway audiobooks. Prizes were purchased with funds from the Friends of Wolfner Library and a grant from the Missouri State Library.

Planning is underway for the 2012 summer reading program. The children's theme is *Dream Big-Read* and the teen theme is *Own the Night*.

Outreach and Adult Winter Reading Program – Natalie Junkin, Special Services Librarian

Since August, Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library has had a presence at 12 different events, including presenting at two public library's staff development days and at the Missouri Library Association (MLA) conference.

Junkin would like to work with more libraries and their staff on their staff training days. She would also like to see more opportunities for events in the Kansas City and St. Joseph areas. She asked the Council to e-mail her information about appropriate any events in those areas.

The theme for the 2012 Adult Winter Reading Program is "Stories from Our Past: United States Historical Fiction." Participants must be 18 years of age, and the program will be digital only. Registration for the program will begin on January 24, 2012 and ends on March 6. To qualify for the prize drawing, the participant must read a minimum of 12 books.

Adjournment:

Flasar adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Dates of 2012 meetings:
March 23, 2012
July 20, 2012
November 9, 2012