

Draft
South Central Library System Board of Trustees Minutes
7/23/2020, 12:15 p.m.
4610 S. Biltmore Lane, Suite 101, Madison, WI 53718
Meeting held remotely via BlueJeans

Action Items: None

Present: F. Cherney, J. Chrisler, P. Cox, B. Clendenning, N. Foth, M. Furgal, J. Healy-Plotkin, J. Honl, N. Long, M. Meloy, K. Michaelis, M. Nelson, R. Nelson, G. Poulson, T. Walske, A. Weier, K. Williams

Absent: N. Brien

Excused:

Recorder: H. Moe

SCLS Staff Present: M. Van Pelt, C. Baumann, M. Jochem

Call to Order Time: 12: 15 p.m. J. Healy-Plotkin, President

- a. Introduction of guests/visitors: None
- b. Changes/additions to the agenda: None
- c. Requests to address the Board: K. Williams thanked M. Van Pelt for chairing the COLAND committee especially through a pandemic. Jaime Healy-Plotkin is now the current chair. Cue imaginary applause.

N. Long noted the Columbia County library board met and following that the Columbia County library directors met and noted concerns they have regarding the potential rebates for SCLS delivery services, poor communications with SCLS staff and responses to questions, and frustration of receiving delivery materials, reduced circulation, and the impact on budgets. J. Healy-Plotkin thanked N. Long for passing along the concerns and inquired whether the directors had expressed their concerns at the All Directors meeting in July as well as the Administrative Council. She also noted that voting occurred for delivery service fees for 2021 at the All Directors Meeting. M. Van Pelt noted she will follow up directly with the Columbia County Cluster to resolve the issues. She also noted she has had library visits with Pardeeville and Cambria recently and was not made aware of any issues. The Portage Public Library inquired if SCLS management was looking into a different telephone service. Because staff is working from home, it is difficult for member libraries to call individual staff. SCLS is looking into alternatives, one being the possibility of cell phones for staff. The issue about rebating delivery costs to member libraries is complicated. Member libraries think there is a set fee per day, but the pricing is set up across the entire system and broken down by county. Libraries will receive the same volume of materials regardless of whether it is 5 or 2 days a week, and other factors include miles, gas, sorting time, etc. Columbia County has asked SCLS for savings and the only way that would happen is if all the county libraries went to 2 days a week. If one library wants less and another doesn't, it won't change the cost. Delivery is sending everything they receive, but there are less materials being received with libraries at different stages of service. SCLS has purchased \$12,000 in additional red bins due to the quarantining of materials and none of that cost is being charged to the libraries.

J. Healy-Plotkin noted she is concerned about the way the directors expressed their issues because there is a protocol set up specifically for member libraries to bring their issues to their Cluster Representative for each County on the Administrative Council and other committees. N. Long noted the Directors may not understand the complications of delivery and the protocol for expressing their concerns to their cluster representative.

Approval of previous meeting minutes: 06/25/2020

- a. Motion: A. Weier moved approval. G. Poulson seconded.
- b. Changes or corrections: None
- c. Vote: Motion carried.

Bills for Payments: M. Van Pelt noted the bills for payment amount is \$147,989.87

- a. Motion: P. Cox moved approval of the bills for payment. N. Foth seconded.
- b. Discussion: None
- c. Vote: Motion carried.

Financial Statements:

Presentation: Inclusivity Programs within member libraries: M. Jochem – You may view the Power Point presentation in the documents online. A. Weier praised the Madison Public Library board for keeping inclusivity in mind by increasing support for high minority and low income populations in their budget. P. Cox inquired about member libraries improving their communication with the Spanish speaking population and how to address it. M. Jochem noted SCLS will look into providing additional resources for community assistance to libraries with multilingual patrons.

Committee Reports:

- a. Advocacy: A. Weier noted the WI Governor’s Task Force on Broadband recently started meeting to advise the government and legislature of broadband strategies for expanding high speed internet access. It’s recommended by the WI Library Association to provide input to the legislators of this task force.

Action Items: None

SCLS Foundation Report: The foundation board will meet following the board meeting. The Superior Public Library Foundation will be joining the SCLS Foundation.

System Director's Report: You may view the System Director report online. M. Van Pelt noted she recently met with Cambridge for their library visit. The latest test finding from REALM, which is a lab study funded by the IMLS, indicated that COVID -19 can live on specific library materials like glossy pages and board books for up to 4 days. The recommendation is now a 4 days quarantine. Delivery will be adjusting the quarantine schedule based on these findings. M. Nelson inquired whether the member libraries are being instructed to quarantine for 4 days. Yes, they have been informed by both SCLS and DPI.

The Building Needs Assessment Work Group has scheduled three building tours of the selected builders. One more tour needs to be scheduled. The Marathon County Task force indicated their final recommendation will come out in October 2020. They will be interviewing staff of the Marathon County Library regarding their services and relationship with the Wisconsin Valley Library System and then do a SWOT analysis.

J. Healy-Plotkin inquired if M. Van Pelt has provided orientations for the new board members. M. Van Pelt noted she has provided the packet of information for them and has an orientation scheduled for J. Chrisler. R. Nelson indicated he didn’t need one and she has not heard back from B. Clendenning.

Administrative Council (AC) Report: All Directors met July 16, 2020. You may view the minutes online. All the fees were voted on and passed.

Other Business: Do the board members appreciated receiving emails regarding delivery? Yes. M. Van Pelt will forward them onto the board.

Information Sharing: The August 27 board meeting will be held virtually. The Budget & Finance and Personnel committees will meet virtually on August 18th to review the 2021 budget.

Adjournment: 1:37 p.m.

For more information about the Board of Trustees, contact Martha Van Pelt

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