

SAINT LOUIS REGIONAL LIBRARY NETWORK

MINUTES APRIL 10, 2012

Saint Louis Regional Library Network Council Meeting minutes for April 10, 2012

ROLL CALL. Present: Tom Cooper, Barbara Edwards, Cherie Lemay, James Pakala, Peggy Ridlen, Chabha Tepe, Beth Wakely. Absent: Ellen Eliceiri, Betty Murr, Michelle Schmitt. Attending from MLNC: Tracy Rochow Byerly.

President Chabha Tepe called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Jim Pakala had agreed to serve as recording secretary for today's meeting in Michelle's absence. Prior to the meeting Tracy by e-mail had distributed to Council members the Jan 25 minutes, the SLRLN Services Proposal for FY13, a meeting agenda, and more recently a March 31, 2012 balance sheet for SLRLN and the proposed FY13 budget. She also handed out paper copies of all these, nicely "color-coded" for convenience.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Beth moved, Barb seconded to approve minutes of the previous meeting on January 25.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Tom reported that total financial assets remain very substantial and the amount spent on the recent Tech Expo was well used. Everyone agreed. (Tracy later noted that at least 82 attended and that a couple of libraries joined SLRLN in conjunction with the event.)

UPDATE FROM MANAGEMENT SERVICES. Tracy reported on MLNC services and also the FY13 contract agreement. After discussion, the Council by consensus decided to start over with the Web site, rather than remaining with a technically cumbersome, poor arrangement. Options were discussed and Tracy suggested mounting a temporary site with perhaps as few as four pages, with MLNC's Lars Hagelin using an appropriate way of doing this. The site would offer the basic SLRLN information needed for the interim. SLRLN thereby will maintain a Web presence without a hiatus and the Council will have time to plan the new site.

Beth moved and Cherie seconded that the Council approve the proposed FY13 contract with MLNC, which will carry over to Amigos Library Services with which MLNC should be merged as of July 1, but that the Web site portion remain fluid in view of the unknown specifics and the time involved with the above change from the Web presence we have had.

BUDGET. Tracy reviewed the proposed FY13 SLRLN Budget. Explanations were provided for each category and some changes duly noted. Cheri moved and Beth seconded that the Council approve the FY13 Budget.

SLRLN ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND DINNER. Tracy distributed copies of a registration form with this heading atop it (light blue paper). Several Council members indicated that they can arrive at the Spencer Road Library (St. Charles City County Library District) by 4:30 on Thursday, May 10 to help prior to the 5:30-8:00 p.m. event (5:30-6:00 Networking; 6:00-6:30 Business meeting; 6:30 Dinner; 7:00 Guest Speaker Shirley Baker, speaking on "Stories from a life of taking charge." Some details were discussed and everyone agreed on a \$15 cost for members and \$20 for non-members for the dinner.

COUNCIL BALLOT FOR FY2013. Cherie will serve as the new president, succeeding Chabha who is going off the Council along with Ellen Eliceiri and Jim Pakala. Christina Prucha of Logan has agreed to be on the Council as a representative of special libraries. Barbara, Beth, Betty, Michelle, Peggy, and Tom each agreed to remain on the Council for the coming year (FY13). Michael Boddy of Eden Theological Seminary has agreed to join the Council and be a small academic libraries rep. Eric Stancliff of Concordia

Seminary has agreed to serve and would be a member-at-large. By consensus the Council agreed that revision of the Bylaws must abandon the type-of-library categories for Council members, but keep diversity of library types as intentional.

TASK FORCE UPDATES.

DIRECTORY. Tom discussed the updating of the *Directory* and means of gleaning necessary information. With URLs for sites providing access to extensive library information, the need for the SLRLN *Directory* to contain as much information about each library is reduced. By consensus it was agreed that at the May 10 dinner we can gather ideas for what to have in the *Directory* and how to elicit the requisite information from member libraries. Tom agreed to seek, as well, to have a survey instrument for use during the dinner.

BYLAWS. Cherie reported that Brad Smith, the not-for-profit librarian for St. Charles City County Library, met with her and Betty. He provided some templates for bylaws. He did emphasize that statement of mission and the indication of the valued purposes of SLRLN were critical. He noted that the current bylaws somewhat “box in” SLRLN. Cherie said that the Council needs to address these concerns and make it clear that SLRLN provides something that other entities do not. Networking is something that the wider membership often mentions as a primary value of SLRLN when they attend Tech Expos and other SLRLN events. But, the organization mostly has implied this and not highlighted it. Tracy suggested a summer retreat-type meeting for the Council to discuss mission, purposes, and related matters.

Jim moved and Chaba seconded that the part of the bylaws requiring Council representation according to types of libraries be struck, and that this Bylaws change be voted on at the annual meeting on May 10. The motion carried.

Cherie moved that we open our membership to include individuals as non-voting members, and that this Bylaws change be voted on during the annual meeting on May 10. Barbara seconded. The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS.

Tracy will send a poll to Council members regarding the next meeting and possibly a summer retreat-type meeting to allow time to reflect on and discuss SLRLN and its progress. Any date(s) will not be known before June 6.

Peggy moved and Tom seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Pakala

Recording secretary for the meeting