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UTAH STATE LIBRARY ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, March 26, 2021

10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

Electronic meeting

State Library Board Attendees:

Marguerite Mower, Chair; Lisa Ord; Sara Wiebke; Dianne Aldrich; Diane Carter; Samuel Passey

Utah State Library (USL) Staff:

Chaundra Johnson, State Librarian/Division Director; Lisa Nelson, Blind and Disabled Program Manager; Marie Erickson, Library Resources Program Manager; Heidi Fendrick, State Data Coordinator; Rachel Cook, Grants Coordinator; Amanda Rock, Administrative Assistant

Department of Heritage & Arts (DHA) Staff:

Jill Love, Executive Director; Katherine Potter, Deputy Director

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Mower.

Introductions:

Those present were identified by Ms. Mower.

Board meeting minutes for December 4, 2020:

Ms. Ord moved to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Ms. Aldrich and Ms. Ord. All voted in the affirmative.

OPMA Electronic Meeting Determination:

Ms. Mower read the statement, which allows an electronic meeting to take place without an anchor location.

DHA Update:

Ms. Love welcomed Chaundra Johnson as the new State Librarian/Division Director. She then shared an overview of the recent legislative session, stating it was successful for our department including the approved name change. DHA will be named the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement, effective May 1, 2021.

Director's Update:

Ms. Johnson said she was excited to serve as Utah's next State Librarian. She shared her goals of beginning the strategic planning process, working on USL's budget, and gaining a better understanding of how she can support staff members.

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IMLS Funds:

Ms. Cook shared an overview of spending priorities for the American Rescue Plan Act funds awarded to USL from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The funds are to be used “in helping communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches”. She asked for suggestions from the board. Ms. Johnson shared the plan to meet with board members to further discuss spending options.

CARES/LSTA Funds:

Over \$565,000 was distributed in eight grant rounds since the last board meeting in December, stated Ms. Cook.

One Book/One Utah project:

As part of the Thrive 125 project, a statewide book club will be reading *Virga and Bone* by Craig Child. Ms. Cook invited board members to participate. She said discussion questions and an activity guide will be available. The author will give a talk on May 27, 2021.

Dashboard report:

Ms. Fendrick shared the statistics on the dashboard, which is available on USL’s website.

Staff reports:

Ms. Johnson, Library Development:

After getting positive feedback from the first online UPLIFT course, Development launched a second course on collection development. The next online course will be on library technology.

Ms. Johnson shared the final report for the hotspot project, and referenced a video that was shared about the teaching resource database for educators and library staff. Development partnered with Utah Education Network (UEN) on both projects. She said they were proud of these projects and the impact they had on communities throughout Utah.

Ms. Johnson stated that there was a marketing campaign underway for the bookmobile program and it should be ready to launch in the next few months along with the “Utah libraries have you covered” campaign that will focus on different services USL offers.

Bookmobile update:

Cristina Reyes was hired in January as the Rural Services Program Specialist. She will supervise the bookmobile program, strengthen relationships with local government and improve library services for rural communities.

Ms. Erickson, Library Resources:

Ms. Erickson shared updates for the Resources program. She stated the Utah Digital Government RFP has been closed. She hopes to digitize collections for smaller organizations, giving them a platform.

Niche Academy, a library-specific learning platform, has contracts with 34 state libraries. USL will be able to access and modify tutorials for our own needs.

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The borrower support grant program has received a lot of positive feedback from libraries. Their ILLs are going up, and they don't need to charge for the service.

Ms. Erickson updated the board on the 14-digit barcode project, sharing the unique, redesigned library cards that have been issued.

The Book Buzz program is working with DHA divisions, Multi-Cultural Affairs and Division of Indian Affairs to reach out to new audiences and select titles that will further diversify the collection.

Ms. Nelson, Blind & Disabled Program:

Ms. Nelson shared that 3500 audiobooks have been migrated to duplication on demand. Her staff has made a lot of progress in a short amount of time.

She also shared that 4000 audiobooks titles are on the BARD site, a national website where patrons can download braille or audiobooks onto an app. Megan from the prison reading program took a leading role into getting these books moved over to the right format.

Ms. Nelson shared her plan to start recruiting readers and editors to record books in languages other than English.

She stated that the programs circulation has been adversely affected by running out of shipping containers provided by the National Library Service for the Blind (NLS).

Adjourn: Ms. Mower adjourned the meeting at 11: 20 a.m.

Upcoming State Library Board Meeting dates: June 25; September 24; December 10