

Central Plains Library System  
Board Meeting  
January 8, 2021  
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

**Present:** Tony Anderson, Doris Brandon, Terri Eberly, Judy Hagan, Terri Johnson, Lori Long, Linda Nickel, Matthew Williams

**Absent:** Janene Hill, Shelley Ruterbories

**Also present:** Denise Harders, Autumn Carlson, Christa Porter

**Call to order/Roll Call:** Judy Hagan called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Roll was taken.

**Approval of Minutes:** Matthew Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2020, meeting. Linda Nickel seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as circulated in the meeting packet.

**Financial Reports:** Denise Harders reviewed the financials. Linda Nickel mad a motion to approve the financial report. Terri Johnson seconded the motion. The financial report was approved.

**Correspondence:** Thank you notes were received from:

- Shirley Fiene, Sargent, NE for the Kindle she received from the August Reading Challenge drawing.
- Wade Gibson, Holdrege, NE for the Book Repair presentation given to ESU 11
- Linda Hugo, West Point, NE for speaking to the CCC Library Foundations class
- Gothenburg Public Library for supplying the Book Club Kit, *All the Gallant Men*

**Director's Report:** Denise gave a recap of the report found in the board meeting packets. The office is continuing the Thursday Morning ZOOM meetings for directors and library staff. CPLS continues to organize and manage Reader Zone state-wide. The staff transported Makerspace Equipment to eight libraries.

#### **Old Business**

- CPLS will be hosting two summer reading program virtual workshops. The goal is to have the workshop be interactive. Goodie bags and craft material kits will be sent to the attendees. Workshops are scheduled January 26, 2021 and March 11, 2021 with Jody Crocker presenting craft and activity ideas.
- Full STEAM Ahead will be introduced February 1, 2021. The staff will email a STEAM activity Monday-Friday and posted to CPLS website. At the end of the month, 20 ideas will have been shared for library usage. Supplies will be available for project.

**New Business:**

- Annual meeting to be held July 9, 2021. Denise asked the board to bring location and activity ideas to the next board meeting.

**Other Business**

- Christa Porter gave the Library Commission Report (see attached report)
- The next board meeting will be April 9, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. via ZOOM

There being no further business, Terri Johnson moved to adjourn.  
The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terri Eberly, Secretary

## Nebraska Library Commission Report – January 2021

- **NLC Office Update**

As of Monday, July 6, our offices and the TBBS are open by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling 402/471-2045, 800/307-2665, or emailing [nlc.ask@nebraska.gov](mailto:nlc.ask@nebraska.gov). Staff will be wearing masks to protect you, and we ask that you wear a mask to protect staff. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided. Use of hand sanitizer is required of all visitors upon entry. Public restrooms and water fountains will be unavailable to visitors so please plan accordingly. All pickups and drop offs can be transacted at a designated table near the front door. We will still be available by phone, email, and fax. Our passport service remains suspended – we are not making any appointments during this time. Many of our staff are still working from home, so if you reach our voicemail please leave your name, number, and question and we will get back with you as soon as possible.

- **COVID-19 and Pandemic Resources for Libraries**

If your library is looking for information on pandemic preparedness, including the current COVID-19 outbreak, check out our page of resources: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/libman/pandemic.aspx> We have pinned a blog post on our site: <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/2020/03/10/covid-19-and-pandemic-resources-for-libraries/> We are maintaining a list of library closings, accommodations, and openings. Please contact [nlc.ask@nebraska.gov](mailto:nlc.ask@nebraska.gov) to let us know of updates at your library. We are always updating our pages, so if you notice that we are missing a crucial resource, please reach out to us.

- **Biennium Budget Request**

The Library Commission's budget request was submitted on September 14. The request includes a 2.75% increase in funding for regional library systems for both years of the biennium beginning July 1, 2021. The governor will make state budget recommendations in mid-January. The legislature's appropriations committee will begin budget hearings in January and into March. State appropriations will be made toward the latter part on the legislative session in late May.

- **LSTA Appropriations**

In mid-December, Congress enacted appropriations for federal agencies and programs through the end of the federal fiscal year (September 30, 2021). Appropriations included a \$2 million increase in the Library Services and Technology Act Grants to States program. The \$2 million will increase the base amount for states and U.S. territories. Nebraska's funding increase over last year is estimated to be about \$35,000. The Institute of Museum and Library Services expects to issue grant awards to state library agencies by late January or early February.

- **Library Innovation Studios Project**

Installation and training for the LIS project has been done in Superior, St. Paul, and Cambridge. La Vista, McCook, Bellevue, and Randolph have been postponed to 2021. The number of people to be trained is greatly reduced. So more equipment videos and recorded webinars have been produced for library staff and volunteers to watch.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, IMLS approved our request to reduce the number of libraries participating in the grant to around 35. We preferred this over extending the length of the grant. In addition to creating more training videos, grant funds were also used to purchase Niche Academy to host the LIS trainings online.

## NLC Grants for 2021

The Nebraska Library Commission has made funding available for grants for 2021: Youth Grants for Excellence, Internship, and Continuing Education & Training. Youth and Internship Grants have been awarded and official announcements will be coming soon. The CE grants deadline has been extended to January 15. The CE grants are available again for the usual purposes: attending a conference, taking a course/workshop/training, or other bigger CE projects.

- **Annual Public Library Survey Deadline**

The deadline to submit the annual Public Library Survey is February 12, 2021. Completion of this survey is required in order for libraries to seek or retain their accreditation, but unaccredited public libraries can also submit their data in order to earn Dollars for Data. Contact Sam Shaw with questions - sam.shaw@nebraska.gov or call 800-307-2665

- **Public Library Accreditation**

In March of this year, we extended the Public Library Accreditation expiration dates for all public libraries by one year. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are again extending the expiration dates, by one more year. So, there will be no full Accreditation process in 2021 and we will not be holding Public Library Accreditation and Community Needs Workshops in 2021. At this time, we plan to resume the program in 2022. However, for libraries applying for accreditation for the first time, or libraries with accreditation that has lapsed, we are going to run a small accreditation process, so that they don't have to wait another year to be eligible for opportunities requiring accreditation.

- **2021 One Book One Nebraska**

*Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II* (Bison Books, 2014) by James J. Kimble is the 2021 One Book One Nebraska selection. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities are available at <http://onebook.nebraska.gov> Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/onebookonenebraska>

- **Library Commission Personnel News**

Cynthia Nigh has retired, effective September 27. Cynthia worked first in the LIS project, and then as a key member of the team working to expand broadband Internet access to rural libraries.

Chelsea Lemburg has been appointed to fill the Staff Assistant position in government Information Services. Chelsea will continue as Library Innovation Studios project assistant through June when the grant project ends, and will work in Government Information Services as time permits, then full-time in that area with LIS project completion.

- **E-rate Training Filing Window for Funding Year 2021**

The Form 471 application filing window for Funding Year 2021 will open on January 15, 2021 and will close on March 25, 2021. Form 471 is the second form in the E-rate process for libraries to receive discounts on Internet related connection costs. Since a library's Form 470 must be posted a minimum of 28 days, that makes Feb. 25 the last day to post one's Form 470. But we remind you to not to wait until the last day since the system tends to get clogged up and unresponsive with all those late filers. See the E-rate page on the Commission's website, and/or contact Christa Porter with questions: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/erate/> , 800-307-2665

- **Big Talk From Small Libraries 2021**

The Call for Speakers for the 2021 Big Talk From Small Libraries online conference opened on October 22. The original deadline to submit a proposal was January 8, 2021. But, due to the events of this week, we are extending the deadline to January 15. The conference will be held on Friday, February 26, 2021. For details go to <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk/>

- **NCompass Live Schedule**

For more detailed information and registration go to <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>

- January 13 – Tiny Spaces Bring Big Opportunity
- January 20 – 2021 One Book One Nebraska: *Prairie Forge*
- January 27 – Pretty Sweet Tech - How to Make Tutorials with a Screen Recorder & Webcam
- February 10 – Education Programs Leading to Credentials in Librarianship
- February 24 – Pretty Sweet Tech - How to Make Green Screen Videos Using Free and Low-Cost Tools

- **Basic Skills 2021 Schedule**

Class	Start Date	Instructor
Communication	1/1 - 1/31	Self- paced
Customer Service	2/8 - 2/19	Christa
Library Governance	3/8 - 3/19	Denise
Library Technology	3/22 – 4/2	Holli
Introduction to Cataloging (Organization of Materials)	4/1 – 4/30	Self-paced
Library Finance	4/19 – 4/30	Holli
Intellectual Freedom/Core Values	5/10 – 5/21	Holli
Readers’ Advisory	6/7 – 6/18	Sharon
Reference	7/5 - 7/16	Christa
Library Policy	7/26 - 8/6	Sharon
Collection Management	8/16 - 8/27	Denise
Programing & Outreach	8/30 - 9/10	Christa
Community & Library	9/20 – 10/1	Sam
Management/Supervision	10/18 – 10/29	Holli
Leadership	11/1 - 11/12	Holli
Library Service to Children & Teens	11/29 - 12/10	Sally