

Central Plains Library Board Meeting
January 13, 2023
Zoom Meeting

Call to order and roll call: President, Terri Johnson called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m. via Zoom, Secretary, Terri Eberly took roll call.

Present: Sharon Bohling, Jody Crocker, Jamie Dennis, Sherri Dux-Ideus, Terri Eberly, Janene Hill, Terri Johnson, and James Tidei. **Absent:** Doris Brandon, Stephanie Branham, Lisa Mount, and Kina Stefka.

Others in attendance: Denise Harders, Christa Porter and Tim Johnson.

Approval of the minutes: Correction to the minutes, book title: changed from “The Lincoln Library” to “The Lincoln Highway”. It was moved by Jamie Dennis and seconded by James Tidei to approve the corrected minutes. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Financial Report: Sherri Dux-Ideus moved to approve the financial report. Jamie Dennis seconded the motion. The financial report was approved as circulated.

Correspondence:

- Thank you from Maggie Berndt, Nebraska Public Media for collaboration on the Nebraska Pollinators Project.
- Thank you from Gail Irwin, Ainsworth Public Library and Laurie Yocom, Wilson Public Library in Cozad for providing funds for the Jonis Agee, Humanities Speaker program
- Thank you from Anne Quigley, Valentine Public Library for the Matt Mason Book Set
- Thank you from Denise Harders and family for the gifts, thoughts and prayers extended to the family following her father’s death.

Directors Report: Denise reported on the activities of the CPLS office.

- Reviewed report on the bulk loan program from McCook Library
- Statistics showed many book kits loaned out, as well as Makerspace equipment.
- Accreditation process complete with one new library in the CPLS being credentialed for the first time. All CPLS libraries due doing this period were accredited.
- Holly Woldt, NLC Technical support, reached out to Denise regarding Digital Equity for Nebraska residents. Holly worked with the Nebraska Libraries during the BTOP grant. Currently, a half million dollars has been set aside for the planning phase of this project. The project is to make access to digital (Internet availability) possible for rural areas with poor internet service. Denise will report what library systems do for communities. Stakeholders: Economic Development, corporations and businesses—very happy to have libraries included in the conversation.
- A couple of the southern counties in the CPLS have had an issue with a patron viewing material unsuitable for children on the computers. The material was seen by children which led to the city/police being called to the library. Computers were removed. Another library was contacted to be on the alert for the individual accessing this material on library computers. Denise reminded us that as long as it is not child pornography or sex traffic related, though the material may be offensive, it is not illegal. Tread lightly when involving outside authorities.
- Sheila Carmony is the new librarian at Axtell. The township was dissolved and the city of Axtell took over management of the library. The downtown facility has added restrooms, put in new

flooring, decorative fireplace, furniture and moveable book shelves. A popular program is called the Pre-School Book Club. They have 28 preschoolers involved in the program.

- Denise has offered the part-time CPLS position to retired librarian, Deb Fairbanks. The flexible schedule works for Deb. Hours will be 10-15 weekly depending on seasonal demand.

Old Business:

- Certificate of Deposits. Denise has a meeting with a financial advisor at Edward D. Jones to discuss and invest \$10,000.00 from the general fund in two CDs with different maturity dates to keep the money available as needed. Terri Eberly will meet with them to be the additional signor on the account for the board.
- CPLS Biennial Conference will be held October, 19, 2023, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Kearney Public Library. The Conference theme "Tools of the Trade". Four rooms have been reserved for the sessions which will allow for 4 concurrent sessions per hour. We are looking for 20 presenters, each providing about one hour on a topic, a keynote speaker, and three lightning round presenters. This would be equivalent to 6 CEs if an attendee went to each session. At this time, we do not think we will have any repeat sessions. Looking at a take and go lunch. There is a lot of excitement for this conference.

New Business:

- Denise filed the 2023-24 Non-profit Corporation Biennial Report online with the Secretary of State. The cost was \$25.00 plus a \$3.00 handling fee.
- Upcoming workshops were highlighted (se the packet handout)
- CPLS is working with David Marsh on a Humanities Program that can be tied to the summer reading program "All Together Now". He has a musical program with music from around the world. CPLS would offer this to libraries and pay the \$50.00 program fee for each library.
- A System Services Survey will be out in the next few months. Denise has been working on the questionnaire. The survey will be in google form and the link will be sent via email.
- Terri Johnson asked the board to consider options for the annual meeting. Denise recommended Cozad. Several area museums of interest, as well as a Nebraska Arts Council series on art for seniors. One specific is a Eustis resident with a barn quilt presentation. To be discussed further in April.
- Next meeting is April 14, 2023, 10:00, Room 210-211 at CCC Grand Island.

Other Business: Christa Porter presented the NLC report—January **2023 HIGHLIGHTS**

- **LSTA Appropriations.** Congressional FY 2023 Omnibus Appropriations bill provides increases for several library programs. IMLS +26.8 million, LSTA +13.5 million, LSTA grant to states +183,000.00 and Innovative Approaches to Literacy +1 million.
- **NLC Grants for 2023.** Grant awards are in the mail. CE/Training-8 applications funded for \$5,000.; Youth-34 libraries awarded \$31,466.13 (1,466.13 left over from Kreutz-Bennett); Internship grants- 20 libraries awarded \$20,000.; and Library Improvement grants-25 libraries awarded \$60,000.00.
- **Public Library Accreditation. 2022 accreditation process complete.** 183 accredited libraries in the state. This cycle 27 were re-accredited; 2 new libraries were accredited Stapleton (CPLS) and Sterling; 7 libraries given extension and 2 libraries were not re-accredited.
- **E-rate for 2023.** "E-Rate: What's new for 2023?" online workshops were held in November 2022. The recording is available on NLC webpage. Form 470 window closes 2/28 and form 471 window opens 1/18 and closes on 3/28/23. Questions contact Christa.

- **2023 Special Construction Fiber to the Library Recordings available.** Year 3 of the E-rate Special Construction State Matching Fund Program, Three online workshops were held and recordings are available on the NLC website
- **Big Talk from Small Libraries.** The conference will be held February 24, 2023. Schedule and speakers listed on the NLC website.
- **Library Commission Personnel News.** Andrew Sherman (former director of Sidney Library) has been hired as the IT Infrastructure Support Analyst
- **N-Compass Live Schedule and Basic Skills 2023 Schedule** available on the NLC website

Adjourn: Sherri Dux-Ideus moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Eberly, Secretary