

# **Draft Minutes for Governor's Advisory Council (GAC) on Libraries**

Tuesday, April 9, 2019, Audioconference

## **1. Meeting Called to Order:**

- 3:35 PM by Tracy Swaim and Roll Call commenced.
- Present: Rosemary Austin, Amanda Bailey, Rebecca Brown, Kay Jabusch, Rachel Nash, Karen Petersen, Deborah Rinio, Ruth Terry, Arthur Walters, Patience Frederiksen (Ex-Officio), and Tracy Swaim (Coordinator/Secretary).

## **2. Meeting Chair Volunteer Requested:**

- Rosemary Austin volunteered and took over meeting.

## **3. Agenda Review:**

- Motioned by Karen Petersen/Seconded by Arthur Walters.
- Approved: Unanimous.

## **4. Minutes of April 12, 2018 meeting reviewed:**

- Motioned by Ruth Terry /Seconded by Rachel Nash.
- Approved: Unanimous.

## **5. No public comment was requested.**

## **6. No questions about mission, policy statement, or bylaws were presented.**

## **7. Review and discussion of FY2019 grants awarded under State Plan:**

A five-page document detailing the State Plan Activities and grants, projects, and staff work was read through and discussed. Here are specific questions and highlights:

- Is the old white binder of historical photos from the historical library included in the Alaska Digital Archives?
- Specific databases are highlighted to reflect the diverse content found in the SLED databases including, but not limited to, Spanish language, health, STEM, and Business resources.
- Learning Express is an additional resource for Activity 1.8.
- Additional information on Growing Alaska Through Small Business Startups is requested by the group.
- It was remarked that the Small Library Institute of Management (SLIM) and the Small Library Institute of Continuing Education (SLICE) are examples of very effective library education in the state.
- Deborah Rinio gave an overview of the National Libraries Standards Course.

- Will/Has the Alaska Digital Newspaper Program digitize(d) the boxes of newspapers in storage at the Ketchikan Daily News? Anastasia Tarmann would be best contact.
- NASA at my Library seems like a practical and popular program.
- Erate brought in \$127,500,000 in federal discounts to libraries in Alaska.
- OWL and School Bag assisted with another \$1,438,116 in further discounts for libraries and school districts.
- The Center for Interactive Learning (CILC) can bring videoconferencing and programming of current topics of public concern to any library with active OWL videoconferencing.
- Rachel gave an overview of Soldotna's Digital Literacy Lab.

## **8/9. Alaska Library Community & IMLS News Roundup**

- Evaluation for LSTA of Alaska's Five-year State Plan will begin in fall of 2021 with the report being due in April 2022.
- The new State Plan (FY23-FY27) will be due by June 2022. The GAC will have audioconferences and a face-to-face meeting during this time to complete the plan. The plan actually serves as our "application" to IMLS for LSTA funds.
- Informational Budget News. The Governor's budget removed funding for Live Homework Help and OWL. The Alaska House put the funding back in. It is not known what the Alaska Senate will do. If the House and Senate versions are different, it will go to conference committee before going to the Governor. The Governor has line-item veto authority. Line-item vetoes will stand unless  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the Alaska Legislature votes to override. The budget is unsettled at this point.
- The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) asked the State Library to assist with the spending of Early Literacy funds. With these funds the State Library has been able to buy board books, increase titles in the Alaska Digital Library, and purchase multi-year subscriptions to Sesame Street EBooks and Tumblebooks.
- IMLS was reauthorized in 2018 with an increase in the LSTA Base Formula. The previous base formula was \$680,000; the newly authorized formula now starts at \$1,000,000. IMLS starts with this base amount and then adds money based on population. In previous years the Alaska State Library has brought about \$1,000,000 for Alaska Library grants. The larger base will increase the yearly amount to about \$1,250,000. It will be phased in over a number of years.
- Although IMLS Reauthorization was approved and signed by the President in 2018, it is currently cut from the President's proposed budget.
- Alaska US Rep. Don Young has agreed to be the Republican lead on the LSTA "dear appropriator" letter. Every year, "dear appropriator" letters are written by members of congress and circulated within the House and Senate asking respective appropriations committees to approve funding for each program.

## **10. Next Meeting**

- The Council would like to have another meeting in six months, probably October. This meeting should be allotted 90 minutes in order to have more in depth discussion on topics. Tracy will survey the group in the summer to determine an acceptable meeting date and time.
- In addition to the meeting, Tracy will work with ALN or AkLA to create a mailing list for GAC members. This will facilitate on-going awareness and discussion on library topics impacting Alaska.

## **11. No announcements.**

## **12. Adjournment:**

- Motioned by Rebecca Brown /Seconded by Ruth Terry.
- Approved: Unanimous.

Minutes submitted by Tracy Swaim, Grants & Statistics Librarian, Alaska State Library