

New Mexico State Library Commission

July 1, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Commissioners: Norice Lee (Chair), Dean Smith (Vice Chair), Elizabeth Martinez, Millie Pogna, Cynthia Shetter. New Mexico State Library: Kathleen Moeller-Peiffer (State Librarian), Ryanne Cooper, Lori Thornton, John Mugford, Amber Espinosa-Trujillo. Department of Cultural Affairs, Secretary Veronica Gonzales.

1. Call to order by Commissioner Lee at: 1:40 p.m.
2. Special Introductions:
 - Amber Espinosa - Trujillo, Rural Services and LSTA
 - Secretary Veronica Gonzales, Department of Cultural Affairs
3. Approval of Agenda:
 - Motion to approve by Commissioner Shetter; Second by Commissioner Martinez. Agenda approved
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - Motion to approve by Commissioner Smith; Second by Shetter. Minutes approved
 - There was confirmation that the Commission's meeting agendas and minutes will be posted on the web by New Mexico State Library (NMSL) staff.
5. Public Comment:
 - Concern was raised that the Commission needs to do more to engage the public and professionals. It was noted that the Commission is advisory so the standard to post meetings is lower. Smith stated that, in his experience, there typically are not many individuals from the public who attend library board meetings, etc. Shetter concurred and added that when there are specific issues of public interest, people will typically show up.
6. State Library Matters (Peiffer, State Librarian)
 - Written reports by NMSL staff will be posted on the website along with the meeting minutes.
 - Possibility of Active Shooter training for libraries across the state.
 - It was shared that Ryanne Cooper will be leaving the NMSL for a position out of state. She was thanked for her leadership and her contributions at the State Library. The Commission will send a letter of thanks to her.
7. Old Business:

Advocacy for School Libraries - New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)—

- There will be a Legislative Education Study Subcommittee meeting, July 13th - 15th
- Commissioner Pogna informed attendees that the PED Commission presently only works with charter schools. This led to discussion/concerns that libraries may not be addressed in charter school charters; and general questions about the level of library representation within PED.
- Additional concerns raised included: The use of library spaces for testing; lack of certified librarians in elementary schools; ability for libraries/librarians to effectively cooperate with public education

given present structures; and the current make up of the NMSL Commission that includes an appointed member from the PED Commission.

- It was noted that a contact person on PED regarding libraries could be: Rachel Altobelli.
- Commissioners agreed that further discussion/investigation on the above issues is warranted.
- It was determined that Peiffer would speak with Deputy DCA Secretary Delello regarding advocacy efforts for school libraries prior to any actions occurring.

8. New Business:

Advocacy for the State Library's budget with DCA and Legislators—

- Per Secretary Gonzales, the Library Commission should focus advocacy efforts on "educating and informing", anything beyond that would require registering state. Secretary Gonzales can provide more information on registering. She shared that there are issues that the Commissioners may want to advocate for, including state aid cuts (services, etc., which would be affected) and staff vacancies. She emphasized that we could make a case for areas that are critically needed, even in an environment in which budgets are flat. Shetter contributed to the discussion that perhaps it would be beneficial for the Commissioners to participate in a workshop with Anne Green-Romig; and that educating, informing, and raising awareness of needs and issues is important in our roles as commissioners. According to Shetter, there is a window of time now in which we can identify issues and talk with legislators. Also helpful would be talking points of legislative issues, with timelines, etc. Peiffer will develop talking points that could be used to create template, timelines, etc.
- Secretary Gonzales provided additional background to the Commissioners on the causes and effects of the current FY shortfall. The state is working hard to find measures to meet present and future funding needs. There will be a \$500,000 shortfall going into FY17. If there's not an increase in FY18, there will have to be very serious cuts in services, staffing, etc. As far as state revenues, these include: #1, Oil & Gas, #2, Tourism, #3, Cultural Affairs. More condensed information (from previous Beber report) will be forthcoming before the next legislative session. It was noted that 70% of DCA's budget is personnel.
- A question arose regarding the status of creating a foundation for the State Library, as public/private partnerships are becoming increasingly important.
- Lee asked Peiffer to send any stories, pr, etc. to Commissioners who could help distribute, push out.

9. Dates and Locations for Quarterly Commission Meetings:

- Smith will talk to Lynette Shurdevin about best slot for the next Commission meeting at the NMLA annual conference, to be held in early November in Albuquerque.
- Lee will submit conference program, deadline August 19th.

10. Adjournment, Motion by Smith; Second by Martinez. Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.