District Advisory Council Meeting
10:00 AM August 11, 2005
James V. Brown Library

Minutes

I. Minutes:

Cindy Whitmoyer, chairperson, called the meeting to order. *The minutes of the last District Advisory Council Meeting were approved.*

II. Report from Commonwealth Libraries

Jim Hollinger, Commonwealth Libraries reported that a new PA Digital Initiative is in the works changing POWER Library searching methods. HSLC will manage the work on initiative and hire project manager. There will be an implementation of a federated search engine, which will allow users to search the POWER Library databases via a central "Google-like" mechanism. Committee is currently looking at software. Due to be launched in late 2005 or early 2006. As part of this initiative, the committee is working on 24/7 reference services for residents of the state. This is still in early stages of development and will be launched late 2006 or 2007 at the earliest. HSLC will also manage.

Jim introduced NCLD's new liaison from Commonwealth Libraries, Sandy Nork. She has 18 years of experience working for York County Library System and worked for the State Library cataloging digital items. She is currently participating in the Virtual Reference Committee described above.

III. Consultant Report

Tricia Ulmer, District Consultant, gave the report on district activities. Programs presented and attended were reported. Ulmer reported on progress regarding LEADing Libraries program this fall. Questions were fielded regarding if multiple participants from one library would be able to come. Ulmer reported there is enough leeway in the budget that this shouldn't be problematic. She reiterated the importance for both library staff and trustee members to participate.

Ulmer reported district LSTA website development successfully completed this summer with increased traffic to websites increasing dramatically across the district.

V. District Budget Program Proposals

Tricia Ulmer reviewed possible programs individually for remaining district budget allocation of $34,574. Descriptions of all programs were e-mailed in advance of meeting. The need for more assistance in the realm of human resources was introduced via e-mail

suggestion. Discussion regarding the lack of health and other benefits has been problematic. Janice Trapp indicated that the district center could not legally include member library staff in their health plan. Participants must be employees of the library. Michael Nailor, Board President of Priestly-Forsyth Memorial Library indicated lack of knowledge regarding many personnel and benefit issues. Nailor suggested district staff contact Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit to inquire about health benefits trust where school districts pay into trust and receive health benefits via cooperative purchasing program. Tricia Ulmer will follow-up with CSIU and report findings via e-mail. Ulmer indicated increasing human resource workshops next year to assist with information gaps. Jim Hollinger suggested multi-district funds be used for such a workshop.

Concern was raised regarding the ongoing virtual reference project happening with Commonwealth Libraries and whether the district should consider starting 24/7 reference with this project in the works. Mary Klaue added that if the district starts immediately we would be ahead of the curve and our patrons would be already benefiting from such a service.

Committee will respond to survey indicating their votes on which services will be funded. Tricia Ulmer will e-mail survey ASAP.

Diane Sadler made a motion to fund proposed attendance of Tricia Ulmer at PLA Intensive Management Boot Camp on strategic planning next month (see attached sheet for description). Tom Jenkins seconded. Committee approved.

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting November 10, 2005