Meeting Notes for March 22, 2018
Boulevard Park Library
King County Library System

Present: *Linda Rose, Christie Flynn (for Lynn Kanne), Elizabeth Mills, Patricia Devine, Chris Martin, Jeff Martin, Cindy Aden, Lorena O'English, and Jan Rizika*
Present via Zoom: *Beth Hudson, Patricia Cutright, Ann Lally, and Kyle Cox*
Not attending: *Andrew Chanse, Lynne Kanne, Susan Hildreth, Christine Peck, and Patricia Cutright*
Guests: *Tami Massenhimer, Lisa Rosenblum, Anind Dey, Donald Lachman, and Andrea Talmadge*

Meeting _____

Lorena called the meeting to order. Introduction of new members and those attending via Zoom. Ice breaker activity. Welcome to the library by KCLS staff member Chris Martin. Approval of last meeting's minutes with one small change. Patricia Cutright presented the committee's recommendations for new members, not Lorena O'English.

State Librarian Report _____

Cindy welcomed the new council members and spoke about the history of the Library Council of Washington (LCW) and why it matters. LCW started as a board of trustees who had approval authority with members appointed by the governor. Once the State Library was moved to the Secretary of State's Office, the council morphed into what it is today.

Cindy attended the National State Librarian Meeting and found that only half the states have a state library as active as ours. Approximately $3.2 million is granted to us by IMLS every year, and they require feedback which is one main purpose of the council now.

Cindy gave examples of all the ways we are trying to be more visible and connect to the library community. Examples include WSL Presents, WSL Updates, the new blog format, and quarterly emails.

Cindy spoke about several new initiatives happening:
- ILS has worked with DOC to provide library cards to inmates being released and are working towards getting laptops into prisons;
- High School 21 is an online high school certification program to help students get their high school diplomas;
- Stimulating Summers is a coordination between school districts, daycare providers, and public library that provides food and literacy related programming for 6-7 hours a day to school-age children;
- VR in Libraries is a partnership with Oculus to get VR technology into libraries. We currently have 7 pilot locations, and will be adding up to 40 more as the year progresses;
- Newsbank is a digital newspaper vendor we are working with to get a deal on pricing for libraries to use their online newspaper archives;

- The WA Digital Newsapaper project is working on becoming the main depository for newspapers for the state. This is a federal mandate we are working to accomplish;
- The WA Rural Heritage project was contacted by the Oregon State Library about contracting with WRH staff to go out into Oregon communities to digitize historic items and train them on digitization skills;
- We are working with the Digital Public Libraries of America to try and make libraries more discoverable online.

Cindy spoke shortly about the state budget. Cindy is looking in to spending some funds on an upcoming digitization project. Our federal funding comes from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and sadly the current president wants to defund IMLS. Cindy will be traveling to Washington DC in May to see legislatures in person.

New University of Washington iSchool Dean Introduction _____

Anind started almost three months ago and came to Seattle from Pittsburgh. Anind was not sure he'd get the job when he applied, as his degree from Berkeley is in human computer interaction and is very technical. The four final candidates for the Dean position did not have an MLIS, which shows a shift happening in the library world. The iSchool is very diverse, but all areas have a human centric approach to solving real world problems. Anind is still figuring out his role as Dean and is working on getting as many impediments out of the way for faculty and students as he can. The library community has been done a disservice by the media, and the quality of applications has gone done. Who knows what an information school really is? There needs to be more education around who we are and what needs to be done. One of the interesting challenges of the iSchool is having a library program in an urban area where most students want jobs in the city, and there just aren't enough jobs to sustain this. Rural jobs are more available, and we need to do better about indoctrinating students with other opportunities throughout the state and better preparing them for those environments. Susan Hildreth led a cultural competency training that created some guidelines he is working with. There needs to be more emphasize on digital collections and the library as a community space. Librarian skills are in greater demand in the tech industry right now, and the skills needed are very similar in both fields, but the tools we give students to develop these skills are very different. The library profession is changing, and we need to be better preparing students.

Comments from other council members:
- Mid-Columbia Libraries offers a program that trades two years of work for their library system for payment in an MLIS program. It works great, and lets them 'grow' their own librarians;
- The salary for entry level librarian positions is very low in a lot of places. This should be more consistent across the state. Sometime the benefits package entry level positions receive play in to the total salary, and positions with a higher skill level do have higher salaries;
- The Comparative History of Ideas program is incredibly popular. The social justice angle of librarianship is very prevalent right now;
- The iSchool offers a program called Design Methods in Librarianship. This program supports students who are interested in and coming up with ideas, skills, and methods around design and design-thinking in regards to the librarian profession. Design is a way people look at the world. What does it look like to grow 'librarianship' as a field? Tech? Design? Take this in to account when posting library positions.

Roundtable Discussion (Issues of concern with your constituency and library) _____

Patricia Cutright's biggest challenge is trying to figure out who the library's constituency actually is. Difficult because there is so much overlap in different areas. She is working with Carolyn on this.

Ann Lally is quite concerned with the new state policy 188 on accessibility. How will this be taken into account with databases, software, websites, catalogues, etc.? She is worried about commercially available products all libraries relay on that may not be complying with this new state law. Lorena O'English mentioned that the college library she works in uses LibGuides, and the conversion process to make it accessible is very difficult. WSL should be a leader, or at least a partner, when it comes to this change. WTBBL obviously has always taken this into account, but are we doing it state-wide?

Beth Hudson talked about libraries taking different approaches, or are having approaches thrust upon them around the perceptions that libraries are homeless centers. How does this affect budgets, materials, family perceptions? Is this taking on too much given our staffing and budgets? Where can we find funding to build more bathrooms, create family bathrooms, etc.? This is a problem and it takes a big toll on staff, as they walk away feeling like they haven't done enough. They feel under-prepared to deal with mental health issues and connecting with those who need specific services. How do we work with other people in the community on this issue? Donald Lachman from WAServes spoke and told us that WA is one of five states that has the highest statistics of homeless veterans. WAServes does a lot of training on this topic, and creating a working relationship with organizations that offer help is a good place to start. We need to change the dynamic so the homeless don't have to come to the library for refugee.

Kyle Cox has a concern about the levy limits currently in place. It's a problem with the way the economy is going. Inflation is going to rise, and staffing and budget materials will go up. The cost of providing services is exceeding the money we can collect with levies and it is unsustainable in its current model. Local property taxes is a more sustainable way to change this vs trying to do something state-wide. This is something that may change as so many Senate seats are up for election this Fall.

Chris Martin talked about how KCLS is about to rollout a new system. Services that we offer are costly, and they will start to breakdown and share how they are doing the rollout. Everyone wants more computers, tablets, mobile broadband, etc. Shared coalition buying is an idea of something to look into setting-up. Looking at state contracts with companies like Microsoft for ideas. Accessibility bills are a challenge, as you have to look for what needs to be changed. Challenge on digital collections as well because you have to wait for the vendor.

Christie Flynn spoke about the Library Leadership Council. The Council is made up of 34 Deans from Community and Technical Colleges, and enrollment is down across the state. This will affect all budgets throughout the state. Of the 34, over 50% are new directors and deans and it is believed to be a generational shift. Incoming generation doesn't want to do what the older generation did. As community colleges make decisions will they replace librarians with people from a different path? (This goes back to Anind's talk earlier.) Libraries within larger institutions are challenged, as IT has no idea of the end user experience with patrons. Librarians are feeling more like project managers these days, and there is grief and lose among the community about what we have become.

Liz Mils spoke about MLIS students looking for internships and getting experience during the 2-3 year degree period. Mentorship is needed. As is networking at conferences and finding ways to connect with professionals. The culminating project for MLIS students (capstones) has evolved and grown into a robust way to show off the skills learned during their schooling. As your libraries come up with projects, and there are ways for students to step-in and help with a certain aspect or the whole project, please think about letting UDUB know so they can pass this on to MLIS students. This really helps students create a strong capstone. Also, keep in mind online projects. More online students than in-person students currently.

Jane Rizzika spoke about districts that don't require an MLIS for the librarian position. School librarians are always worried about job security and have to set themselves apart whether by applying for grants, doing outside school programming and community networking, or finding community speakers and donations. They have to stay on top of the changes in the field and community, and what they are being asked to do is continually changing. It can be hard to function when you're always scared you'll be let go, and school librarians have to try and make a name for themselves so the district knows they are important and don't get rid of their position. There can be a silo within different school districts, and unfortunately there is not a lot of district support overall. Some districts (Mukilteo) have mentoring for their librarians, Jane has offered to do that in her district. The McCleary decision (an amendment added for the library having their own budget line) passed, which should be a big help.

Linda Rose let us know that her library just moved into a building with the local museum as well, and the look is changing along with the move. Linda has noticed that more people are at the library looking for jobs, taking tests, and getting food handler cards. Her library does not have a lot a lot of kids, but they do throw a holiday party. Linda also does monthly programming that is educational. Mentioned it can be hard to get responses for the programing she does. Jeff said that Carolyn Petersen runs the Keeper of the Stories listserve, and to contact her to get a message out.

Lorena O'English spoke about her strong interest in open educational resources and open access. Open access is a really big problem for four year colleges. Textbook costs are a huge issue, and open access could help get textbooks into more student's hands. A state-wide institutional repository can be done in many different ways, and would be incredibly helpful. Lorena also talked about being disappointed with VR's partnership with Microsoft due to privacy issues. Cindy spoke about this and the issue has been addressed and no privacy is being compromised. Virtual Reference and Open Databases are two of the most important programs for four year colleges.

(Lorena's talk brought up some helpful discussion. It was brought up that there is a digital repository in Cheney, which is managed by the State Archives. Cindy would love to discuss this more, as there is bandwidth to expand the repository. Liz brought up the question of 'Where does data live?' Should I take it with me? Should it stay with the school? Does UDUB have a digital depository? Anind said that yes, UDUB does have one, but he does not know if staff know how to connect to it. Cindy then asked the questions 'What is open data really? Who finds out who keeps it? Who figures out what that portal would look like?' Libraries are in a unique position to take on this role. It would keep libraries relevant, and is within the realm of what they do already.)

Patricia Devine spoke about wanting to discover free training for finding health information, and finding more ways to offer online courses. Partnering with social workers to offer online courses could be a good solution, and is something worth looking into.

Library Council of Washington

Comments from KCLS Director, Lisa Rosenblum _____

KCLS is hiring librarians that have some social skills, and as a profession we need to accept this. This is a turning point, and libraries need to be willing to hire specialists instead of a librarian in certain positions. Libraries need people who can engage with all members of a community. Universities should offer classes or training for students in MLIS programs that involve some aspect of social work.

WA Serves Presentation _____

Donald Lachman, who is a veteran of the Vietnam War himself, worked with Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) for 12 years in management. He retired and now works with WAServe, which has been a partner with DVA for years. He works closely with the state and both organizations have shared visions and projects.

One of the bigger problems is that most organizations have a lack of accountability. The Schulz Family founded WAServes because of this. AmeriServes is a national program that helps veterans, and is also the parent organization of WAServes. This gives us a connection through AmeriServes that can help us, and help veterans transition from WA State to home state.

There is no way that the federal VA can meet the needs of all the veterans out there, or that will be out there in coming years. (Currently 2.7 million deployments.) Fort-Lewis/McChord is the largest military base in the Western United States, which means our veteran population will continue to grow. 90% of Vietnam War injuries are survivable now. The signature wound of our current war is traumatic brain injuries, PTSD, and orthopedic injuries. Women's roles in the current role are the same as men, and there is an astoundingly high rate of sexual trauma. There is a high rate of veterans over the age of 65, and therefore a higher rate of dementia in veterans. Suicide rates also continue to climb.

Less than 30% of veterans fully use the services available to them. This includes the widows and dependents of veterans. The military is trying to make the exit process for soldiers take a whole year so veterans can be taught all of the benefits available to them, and they can have an easier physical and mental transition to civilian life. The key is follow-up. It is critical to follow-up on a regular basis as veterans can have a hard time processing information and staying on track.

WAServes believes they need to be a two-way door for veterans. This means not only referring veterans to services available, but also becoming a partner and provider themselves. This requires staff and time. Any referral they will find service for, and no one gets turned away. All services are free and funded by The Schultz Family Foundation. Two important aspects of WAServes organization are transparency and data collection. Branding and marketing are a very important part of getting the word out, and letting veterans know we exist.

WAServes is looking in to how to start outreach to other organizations. They believe that libraries and prisons are two very important partners for the future. One idea is to use VetPod units in prisons, as well as service dogs in prison programs. For libraries, using **Qube – Cuby? Robot Dr machine** could be very beneficial. They are HIPA compliant and meet federal and state guidelines. They can be used in libraries

very easily and Medicaid provides reimbursement for the costs, and the originator gets the money. This could be a way for small libraries to get some income.

What is needed to move forward is an orientation of some kind for libraries. This could be a First Tuesdays webinar or other type of online training or meeting. It would be useful to get a cost analysis to come up with acquisition sheets for tech challenges and needs. Libraries need partners too, so they have bodies to take this on. Local county veteran's departments or associations would be a good place to start. Libraries need to have a readily available link to the information available from WAServes, not another email.   Workforce Development is another place of connection. Libraries could become connector sites.

WAServes provides paid internships. This would be great for students. (Connecting it back to Liz's talk about MLIS students and internship opportunities.)

One questions brought up is: Is the funding sustainable? There is currently nothing written, but there is a lot of interest with many different sources. Andrea and Donald personally think it is very sustainable due to how much they've grown in only a year. They are also getting ready to expand to Eastern Washington, and maybe Idaho.

Sharing and Upcoming _____

Sharing:
Kyle Cox – Mid-Columbia is updating its financial software, and it is a gargantuan task! They are also remodeling two buildings.

Linda Rose – Ellen Rice King is doing a mushroom program at the library soon. Another great program coming up is a paraplegic speaker talking about how to be accepted by others when you are handicapped. They also write children books. Upcoming is also a Japanese cooking class. Linda will post her programming schedule on the Keepers listserve. She is also thinking of an internship for developing the library's website. Maybe using Drupal?

Jane Rizzika has lots of programming coming up. She works a lot with the food bank. Her school is getting a new library with a larger MakerSpace, including a lego wall. Recently held an Art Auction, and that money will go towards programming for the whole school.

Liz Mills let us know that ProjectViews2 continues to have a reach. OCLC created an online program (Supercharged Storytimes) and received a grant to extend the program. Extension will focus on building out into other areas of development. One program is Read 'o' Rama, which engages kids in books through hands-on activities that come from the books. Michelle Martin is putting together educator programs to try and expand the number of people who can offer them. (Email Liz for info if interested.) IMLS has a planning grant to see how libraries are going outside of their walls to reach under-served families. What are you planning, what does it take to offer, what challenges are you facing? Gathering this info and sending it back out to the community to create a roadmap for libraries to be able to use to do more outreach. Liz may apply for a Laura Bush grant around this topic. Liz is teaching a design method and librarianship online class, and is waiting for course evaluations. UDUB just held a design

forum on campus (with Syracuse), and got her thinking about librarianship as a design field instead of a science field.

Christie Flynn received an LSTA grant that was used to do a 2 day action research seminar from ACRL. This gives librarians a chance to say what it's like to be research based. Conversation has come up around data collection and privacy. How do we argue for budgets without more data collection information? And how do we make sure we keep in mind privacy factors? There are local MakerSpaces in Lakewood area, and what is our role on weekend nights when the school and library is not full? Colleges are asking this question to figure out what else they could be doing.

Chris Martin says the biggest push that is germane to this group is IDX, which is a 3 year partnership with ? that is basically a birth to death STEAM program. KCLS is also about to open new anchor space in Bellevue on April 14th. This will be an ongoing MakerSpace with robots, 3-D printers, sewing machines, food production, new technology, etc. They may open another anchor space in Federal Way in the future. Chris mentioned the United States Agriculture Information Network is made up of Agriculture Librarians. The first ever west coast conference was hosted at WSU (Lorena's library). KCLS is just starting to collect their next tribal digitization cohort, which will focus on a content management system for indigenous communities. This will allow public facing information but also internal information for specific groups.

Upcoming:

Cindy mentioned Center for the Book and asked everyone to go look at the website. The Library Passport program is coming up. The artist was just chosen, her name is Amy Hevron. The program is a contest, and there will be a prize of some kind. It has not been announced yet, but will be soon.

Items for next agenda

- More guest speakers for underserved groups;
- Levy limits and/or political ideas and challenges to then take to legislatures in the Fall.