

MINUTES

IOWA COMMISSION OF LIBRARIES

Date: February 6, 2025

Location: Ola Babcock Miller Building & Online via Zoom

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present: Fred Schuster, Bob Gast, Adam Steen, Brandon Denner, Mindy Reimer

Staff: Brenda Hall, Emily Bainter

1.0 Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

B. Hall called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2.0 Set Agenda

M. Reimer made a motion to set the agenda. **F. Schuster** seconded. No comments on agenda.

3.0 Action Items

3.1 Receive and Approve March 2023 Meeting Minutes

B. Gast made a motion to approve the March 2023 minutes. **B. Denner** seconded. Motion carried.

4.0 Public Comment

No public comment.

5.0 Communications

5.1 Interim State Librarian's Report

B. Hall presented the following items in the State Librarian's Report:

- The FY24 Enrich Iowa Legislative Report was submitted in January to the Governor and Legislature. Enrich Iowa covers Direct State Aid, Open Access, and Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement programs. The State Library received \$2.4 million in FY24 in state funding for Enrich Iowa.
- LSTA federal funding is received from the Institute of Museum & Library Services. The funding covers the IA Shares delivery system, Bridges magazine collection, continuing education and consulting programs, online resources such as WhoFi and the People's Law Library, STEM To Go & Storytime Kits for libraries to borrow, and more. The State Library receives about \$2 million annually in federal funding.
- The State Library launched a new website on Feb. 4 and is now on the official platform for state government agencies, with a goal of improving accessibility and readability.
- Accreditation applications are deferred for FY26 due to the retirement of the main program staff and the large volume of libraries due to apply in the next cycle. The application period will resume in December 2025 and all libraries have had one additional year added to their cycle.
- The State Library continuing education team presented Iowa Libraries Online Conference on January 30 with the theme of evaluations and assessments. The conference featured national keynote speakers and breakout sessions presented by Iowa librarians throughout the day.
- The CE Team transitioned to the Workday Learning LMS this past fall for live and recorded CE events and registration, and tracking Endorsement progress for librarians.

- STEM Fairs and Summer Reading Summits will be held in person across the state in each district in March. Registration is open for librarians to register for one or both days now.

5.2 Commission Reports

- **B. Gast:** Continues to appreciate the People's Law Library resource at the State Library. A court navigator position in Clinton County is being piloted, with potential to expand in other counties and partner with libraries on making the court process more accessible.
- **F. Schuster:** Serves as the vice president of the Ankeny Board of Trustees and attended the recent ILA Legislative Day in the Law Library at the Capitol. Ankeny is having to cut hours due to budget challenges and may be facing additional cuts to hours next fiscal year.
- **M. Reimer:** Iowa AEAs continue to work to align with new legislative requirements and continue to offer media services and media library collections to schools as well as van delivery services. The funding model for AEAs has changed, with AEAs now charging for services selected by the schools and districts.
- **B Denner:** The West Des Moines Friends Group is seeking larger projects to benefit the library; the Friends Group typically funds about half the cost. They are preparing for their upcoming wine and cheese fundraiser, which is the biggest event of the year. The new library director started about six months ago.
- **A. Steen:** Commented that he's a Runnels Public Library user and appreciates the programs and resources offered. Asked about the AEA's project to partner with Goldie's Kids Club on history kits that circulate to schools and would like to explore other opportunities for collaboration with Historical.

6.0 New Business

- **Legislative Session Update**
 - **Senate Study Bill 1031:** The bill has moved through committees in the Senate and will advance to floor. A companion bill in the House moved through the subcommittee and will go to the full committee. The bill primarily cleans up code language, including removing requirements for a unified plan of service reports with the AEAs and Commission and eliminating the State Library setting standards for state library agency libraries.
 - **Administrative Rules Chapters 130, 131, 132:** Executive Order 10 from the Governor set up comprehensive review of Admin Rules. The rules were rewritten and are moving through the review process. Relating to the Commission, section 130.2 removes quorum language (which is stated in Code) and how the public should request to offer public comment during Commission meetings (which can be moved to bylaws).
- **Commission Business**
 - **Iowa Code 8A.203** states the duties of the Commission; the role of the board includes advising on the statewide programs and services of the State Library.
 - The **Current Bylaws** are out of date, **B. Hall** requested a committee form to review the current bylaws for necessary updates, which will require proposal at a future meeting and then an official vote at a subsequent meeting. **F. Schuster** suggested a meeting sooner in a month or two to review proposed changes offered to serve on the committee. **M. Reimer** offered to serve on committee as

well. **B. Hall** suggested early April for the next meeting to review proposed bylaws and will send proposed dates and times to members.

- **Frequency & Format of FY25 and FY26 Meetings:** **B. Hall** asked for preference on format. **F. Schuster** and **B. Gast** both prefer hybrid. **B. Hall** asked about meeting length. **F. Shuster** said two hours seems to be the right length so far.
 - **Commission Vacancies:** **B. Denner** and **M. Reimer's** terms are set to expire April 30. Both have completed paperwork to request to serve an additional term. There are currently vacancies for two public librarians, one academic librarian, and one public library trustee. **B. Hall** has encouraged librarians interested to apply and connected with academic librarians at ILA Legislative Day to refer interested candidates to the Iowa Talent Bank.
 - **Chair & Vice Chair:** **B. Hall** stated the chair and vice chair positions are open and asked about filling them today or waiting for the bylaws to be updated. **F. Schuster** noted that waiting for bylaws to be updated could also give time for new members to come on board. The election was tabled for a future meeting.
- **Discussion**
 - **Status of State Librarian position:** **A. Steen** offered thanks to **B. Hall** for stepping into the Interim role. Following the Legislative Session, hopefully by June, DAS will be posting the State Librarian position through the standard hiring process. He plans to request involvement from interested Commission members during the merit-based hiring process. **M. Reimer** expressed interest in being involved with the process.
 - **Open Forum**

7.0 Adjournment

F. Schuster motion to adjourn. **M. Reimer** seconded. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Submitted by: Emily Bainter, Information Specialist