LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

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Sussex County Library Advisory Board (LAB) Meeting
MINUTES
Wednesday, May 15, 2019
10:00a – Noon
West Complex Large Conference Room

Call to Order: At 10:07a by Diana Young
Adoption of the Wednesday, May 15, 2019 Agenda - **REVISED.** Motion - Diana Young; 2nd – Mary Schwanky

Approve Wednesday, April 17, 2019 Minutes. Motion – Mary Schwanky; 2nd – Diana Young

Announcement: The Delmar Library Grand Opening on April 24th was a great success and well-attended by the community. The VFW Color Guard presented the flags and led the Pledge; Delmar choral students sang the national anthem. The library vibrated with excitement and joy. Per Diana, the event was much more than just a "good will" effort. The members of the community realize how important their library is to the community, particularly since the new build took so much longer than expected.

Sussex County Libraries

With the addition of our new District 1 representative, the discussion became focused on the most important topic of the moment: library funding. RE: the One Ask for Library Standards funding approach/document, Mary Schwanky reminded us that we need to drive the message, not the other way around. There are many unknowns around the ask (i.e.: a service area assigned to the Rt. 9 Library).

On a related topic, the Bond Bill, Steve Schwartz asked why there are no on-site examinations/inspections required by the State/Delaware Division of Libraries (DDL) around library construction? He explained that this is required for any school construction. Who manages oversight of the projects? All agree that with a 50% match in funding of multi-million dollar projects, isn't this a stewardship of tax dollar issue? Mary Schwanky – or the FY 2020 LAB representative - will bring this to the Council on Libraries for answers and future considerations. Kathy noted that in the needs assessment process, applicants are finally required to include DDL tech staff from the beginning of library design. That was the motivation to increase the needs assessment minimum from $50,000 to $150,000.

Dr. Schwarz asked about the PLDS (or Public Library Data Service). The PLDS:

"…captures valuable, data (voluntarily submitted annually) on staffing, operating finances, output measures, interlibrary loaning, and technology provisions, from public libraries throughout the U.S. and Canada. In addition, each year's survey contains a special survey highlighting statistics on one service area or public library topic." (http://www.ala.org/pla/resources/publications/plds.)

Kathy will explore a best-access option and bring those results to the July LAB meeting.

- o Welcome and introduce new District 1 representative, Dr. Stephen Schwartz!
- o Brainstorm ways to connect more directly as Board with Council District libraries (e.g.: monthly meetings in different parts of the county each month). Move to July agenda.
- o Explore use of Independent Library Trustee Manual as guide for LAB manual. Mary Schwanky is developing an outline of applicable components.
- o Update re: concerns around the Independent Library Trustee Manual. Move to August agenda with update re: board approvals.
- o Debrief re: Sussex County Literacy Mapping Project. Move to August agenda.
- o Update: Sussex County FY 2020 budget. Implementation of LAB recommendation under discussion by County Council.

DDL/Steering/DE Libraries/COL

- o Share observations around the DE Library Association/Maryland Library Association Conference. Removed from agenda.
- o Discuss information about the Library Town Meeting on Thursday, June 6.
- o Share any updates re: State of DE FY 2020 budget. Governor's budget included $252,000 increase. The need is minimally $1,000,000. Advocating for same continues at Legislative Hall.

Next meeting date: June 19, 2019 at 10:00am in the Large Conference Room at the Sussex County Administration West Complex.

Adjourn. Motion – Diana Young; 2nd – Steve Schwartz.