

MOUNTAIN VALLEY LIBRARY SYSTEM
Steering Committee Meeting
April 10, 2008

CONVENING:

The Steering Committee of the Mountain Valley Library System (MVLS) met this date via telephone conference call with Chair Darla Wegener presiding. The meeting convened at 10:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT	ABSENT	MEMBER LIBRARY	REPRESENTATIVE
	X	Alpine County Library	Bessie Platten
X		CSU Sacramento Library	Fred Batt
X		Lincoln Public Library	Darla Wegener - Chair
X		Mono County Library	Bill Michael
X		Sacramento Co. Public Law Lib.	Coral Henning
	X	Sacramento Public Library	Anne Marie Gold
	X	Yuba County Library	Loren MccRory
X		MVLS System Headquarters	Annette Milliron
	X	MVLS System Headquarters	Patty Hector

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 13, 2008

A Motion to approve the March 13, 2008 Steering Committee minutes was moved by Bill Michael and seconded by Coral Henning. The Motion passed unanimously.

2. SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

A. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Due to Diane Owen’s upcoming retirement, Randy Osborne, the Special Districts Liaison from the Sonoma County Treasurer’s office, met with Kelli Logasa, Patty Hector, Myra Lazio (our new account clerk), and Ms. Milliron to review the fiscal function provided by Sonoma County. We discussed at length the best approach to managing the MVLS reserve. There are two approaches that could be used. The least desirable in the view of Randy Osborne is to have a separate trust account. The separate account requires that the Council meet and vote to release funds from the account under any circumstance. Mr. Osborne suggested using the approach of leaving the funds in the general index but to restrict their use for designated purposes. By restricting the use, the funds do not appear in the budget, but are available to tap if needed when revenues are delayed. His concern is that the State will be very late with the budget this year, which will delay payment. If the County knows there are restricted funds in the general index and they have substantial proof that revenue is expected, but is just delayed, the restricted funds provide a cushion to allow the System to continue paying bills. If the funds were in a separate trust account, a resolution would be required to move the funds into the general index. North Bay uses the restricted funds approach except for our equipment reserves and member’s individual deposits of TBR. Ms. Milliron will bring an example of the ledger sheet to the Council meeting for the Council’s consideration. Bill Michael requested placement of this issue on the Council agenda for review.

B. SAB MEETING

We’re checking on meeting room availability but unfortunately Gary Shaffer, Sacramento Public Library’s Director of Marketing, who Ann Marie Gold suggested would be a great resource for the workshop, is not available for the proposed May 31st date. Ms. Gold suggested that we invite Jan Sanders, Director of Pasadena Public Library and President of PLA, to be our facilitator. There was concern that attendance would be small given the short time to promote a May meeting. After much discussion, it was decided to postpone the meeting until the Fall. Ms. Milliron will spend the SAB funds on other appropriate System support expenses and will roll forward \$1,538 from the local fees to be earmarked for additional support for an SAB meeting in 2008/09. At that time, we can determine what speakers are desired. We would also promote the event with all three Systems to insure a large audience.

3. SYSTEM CONSOLIDATION

A. CONSULTANT POSSIBILITIES

Liz Gibson is unavailable to facilitate as she is planning to travel this summer. Also, the timeline to submit our request to the Library of CA Board has been shortened. Requests are now due in July as the Board plans to meet in August. North Bay has hired Jeanne Goodrich to perform a desk audit of NBCLS staff in order to help with “mega-system” staff planning. The NBCLS Board suggested approaching Ms. Goodrich to see if she has the time and interest in serving as a consultant for this project. Linda Katsouleas, former MCLS director, was suggested as a possible consultant. Ms. Katsouleas is retiring from her position as Director of Newport Beach Public Library. Ms. Milliron will check with her as well. Another suggestion was to form a sub-committee of representatives from all three Systems to work on the issues of staffing, governance, and fiscal support. MCLS is using this approach to develop their plans. Although it isn’t their first choice, the Steering Committee agreed that a sub-committee may be required to undertake some of the work. The issue will be brought to the May Council meeting for further consideration.

4. REFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommending the purchase of more Gale e-books and perhaps a few of the Nolo press e-books that were mentioned at the January Council Meeting. The Committee is evaluating the various automobile databases as well. The thought is to have a thorough evaluation of the databases available for the individual libraries to use for a group purchase. Susan Hildreth stated that she would not look to re-direct CLSA Reference Funds to fund the new reference service model. She understands that CLSA Systems need to use their reference allocation to purchase databases and to provide training for members as well as handle second level questions. Perhaps the 2008/09 reference database purchase could be used for an auto database for the System. Discussion ensued.

5. WIKI PROJECT

A. APPOINT A TASK FORCE

A final decision was not reached at the Council meeting regarding the Wiki Project. It would be helpful if Council members were prepared to volunteer for a task force when the project is discussed at the May Council meeting.

6. OTHER UPDATES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AGENDA BUILDING FOR COUNCIL MEETING AT FOLSOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Agenda items for May Council: System consolidation update (legal status, dues structure, new programs, staff); Wiki task force discussion, reference database purchase recommendation; possibility of June Council meeting (everyone bring calendars).

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Annette Milliron DeBacker
Clerk of the Board
April 10, 2008