

MCLS Administrative Council Meeting
May 28, 2009
Alhambra Civic Center Library

HIGHLIGHTS

Consent Calendar. The consent calendar was approved with corrections as follows:

- The minutes of the March 19, 2009 MCLS Administrative Council meeting listed Ann Dallavalle, SMAR as present in error.
- On the list of Holidays – 2009/10, the year for the February 12 holiday should be corrected to 2010.

2008/09 Financial Update. Rosario Garza reviewed the FY09 Forecast for May 2009 which projects a deficit of \$105,190 at the end of the year.

Consolidation Update. *Official name change.* Council approved changing the name of the system from Metropolitan Cooperative Library System (MCLS) to Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC), effective July 1, 2009.

Officers for 2009/10. Consolidation Steering Committee members Greg Mullen, SAM/MCLS; Helen Fried, OCPL/SLS; and Jan Sanders, Pasadena/SSCLS met as a Nominating Committee to propose a slate of candidates for Council officers of the new consolidated system. The slate currently consists of the following who have expressed interest in serving as officers: Robin Weed-Brown, DORA; Paymaneh Maghsoudi, WHI; Louise Mazerov, Buena Park; and Jan Sanders, Pasadena. Anyone else who is interested in serving as an officer should contact one of the Nominating Committee members. The election will take place at the first meeting of the new system.

Executive Committee for 2009/10. The Executive Committee of the new system will consist of one member from each of the population groups used in the State Library's *California Library Statistics*, plus the Chair, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and immediate past Chair. The term for committee members is two years, however the terms are staggered to provide continuity on the committee from year to year. For the first year, half of the committee members will serve for one year and half will serve for two years. It was noted that there will be three immediate past chairs that will also need to be taken into consideration for the first year.

Delivery. Council approved the proposed change in delivery service to an alternate day schedule for all libraries except Palmdale, effective in July 2009, in order for the service to be more equitable for members of the new system. The subsidy to Palmdale City Library will continue to be provided since the cost of delivering to Palmdale far exceeds the cost of the current subsidy.

JPA Update. A legal opinion has been provided by attorney John Shupe of Shupe and Finkelstein to confirm that JPAs can become members of other JPAs. The current JPA for MCLS specifies that a quorum is a majority of the members. Ms. Garza has requested an opinion on documentation needed when members withdrew or new members joined the

system. Costs for the attorney are being paid for by a networking grant received by the Peninsula Library System.

2009/10 Budget. Rosario Garza reviewed the proposed 2009/10 budget, noting that the year end number has been changed from a deficit budget to an increase of over \$10,000, based on changes suggested at the last meeting. The proposed budget for FY 2009/10 was approved as distributed.

CLSA Plan of Service and Budget Documents 09/10. Council approved the proposed CLSA Plan of Service for 2009/10 for the Southern California Library Cooperative with revisions to reflect changes in the delivery structure approved earlier in this meeting.

LSTA Grants Update. Rosario Garza reported that a list of LSTA applications submitted for FY 2009/10 was distributed at the meeting. Five of the grants are Statewide Priority grants: AskNow, CA Center for the Book, Family Place, Dia de Los Ninos/Dia de los Libros, and Out-of-School Time Online Homework Help. Two other Priority grants that are likely to be submitted but have not yet been written are: Revision of California State Library LSTA Grants Process and Procedures and Statewide Reference. Only 35 competitive grant applications were received this year.

Written Update Reports. Written update reports were submitted for the FILL (From Interns to Library Leaders) project, Training Update, AskNow (24/7 Reference Project), Big Box Programming, and MCLS Reference.

Pam Alger, Training and Development Officer, noted that a proposal was submitted at a previous Council meeting for continuation of the Big Box program; however, it was felt that given the current budget situation, funds have not been allocated to continue the program next year.

It was suggested that an interest group on adult programming be formed, along with the possibility of having an adult programmers showcase.

Rosario Garza noted that the Reference handout includes year end projections. Questions from MCLS libraries have increased by over 25%.

Open Source – Open Libraries Project. Announcements will be sent out shortly for the first two webinars which have been scheduled for late June/early July. An on-ground workshop will be held in July or August. An LSTA competitive grant has been submitted for additional funding. The sandbox servers are operational and will be open to any of the founding members; web interfaces are being developed. This is another area where it may be beneficial to have an interest group formed.

Legislative Visits and Update. Kathy Gould, PVP, CLA Legislative Committee Chair, was unable to attend to provide a legislative update.

CLA Legislative Day. Those attending CLA Legislative Day reported that legislators were supportive of libraries but mentioned the lack of funds available. It was important that libraries were represented that day among the other groups in attendance.

National Library Legislative Day. Those who attended National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. reported that having the event on Monday and Tuesday this year made it difficult to schedule appointments because the legislators are not usually in Washington, D.C. on Mondays. Legislators were supportive of libraries and were especially interested in youth programs. They were informed that libraries can implement some of the stimulus funds for broadband, along with how it can be used by the public. The Friends' award was given to Senator Boxer this year. The trip provided an opportunity for the southern California librarians to coalesce as a group. Margaret Todd, Paymaneh Maghsoudi, and Jan Sanders were interviewed during the event by Kitty Felde on NPR. The legislators were made aware that libraries are flexible and can assist with any issue, e.g. children's mental health, unemployment, etc., and that libraries have a role in bridging the gap with technology.

Bylaws for SCLC. Council approved the Bylaws for the Southern California Library Cooperative, effective July 1, 2009.

Standing Rules for SCLC. Council approved the Standing Rules for the Southern California Library Cooperative, effective July 1, 2009.

Reserve Fund Policy. Council approved the Reserve Fund Policy, as recommended by the Audit and Finance Committee and the Executive Committee.

Recommendation for Three Additional Signatories. Council approved replacing Pamela Alger, Janet Sporleder, and Carolyn Crain as signatories on the MCLS checking account with Jerilynn Takeda, MCLS; Carolyn Garner-Reagan, ARC; and Monica Greening, MON.

Other. Paula Weiner, TOR, reported that she is on the committee for the CLA Begun Scholarship which is awarded to a California library school student who intends to pursue a career as a Youth Services or Young Adult Librarian; she brought flyers for Council members to take to their libraries for posting.

Chairperson's Report. Greg Mullen reported that this was the last meeting of the MCLS Council and extended congratulations to all.

Executive Director's Report. Rosario Garza reported the following:

- She attended the Califa Board meeting the day before this meeting. Database vendors are facing pressure to make their databases more widely available while they are also facing reductions; this is being handled by the vendors in different ways.
- She sent a message to directors regarding interest in broadband funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which has \$4.7 billion available through the Dept. of Commerce. Public libraries are specifically mentioned as entities eligible to receive the funding. Guidelines are not yet available. She is working with a few other people in the state to develop a system-level multi-million dollar application that would benefit large groupings in the State. The funds must be awarded no later than September 2010 and must be spent by two years after the award date. Open source and teleconferencing capabilities are being considered. She has received enough positive feedback to support her moving forward with system participation.

System Advisory Board Report. Martha Van Heyde Huggins, SAB Vice-Chair, encouraged directors to have System Advisory Board (SAB) members to represent their libraries. SAB members will be working on guidelines for applying for SAB funds to use for training.

Presentation of Gavel to Outgoing System Chair. Robin Weed-Brown, DORA, Vice-Chair, presented Greg Mullen with an engraved gavel in appreciation for his service as Council Chair for the past year, and for all of his work in leading the Council through the consolidation process.

Rosario Garza then thanked the Consolidation Steering Committee for their work on the consolidation process: Greg Mullen, SAM; Jean Scully, RED, Paula Weiner, TOR; Carol Stone, Anaheim; Louise Mazerov, Buena Park; Helen Fried, OC Libraries; Jan Sanders, Pasadena.