

**AGENDA**  
**Recollection Wisconsin DPLA Service Hub**  
**Governing Board Quarterly Meeting**  
Friday, February 3rd, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**NOTES**

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Preview of Recollection Wisconsin [2022 Year in Review](#)
  - a) This was shared earlier this week with the Board and Steering Committees. It is now posted to the blog. Please share widely!
- 3) Steering Committee updates
  - a) New Steering Committee members: We are excited to welcome these folks in March, filling the seats vacated by Scott Brouwer (La Crosse Public Library), Greg Kochen (UW-Eau Claire), Amanda Lee (Outagamie Waupaca Library System), and Rick Bernstein (Dane County Historical Society). We had 8 great candidates and selection was difficult:
    - Jodi Kiffmeyer, Chippewa Valley Museum (Eau Claire)
    - Tamara Ramski, South Central Library System
    - Nyama Reed, Whitefish Bay Public Library
    - Michael Rehberg, Black Point Estate and Gardens (WHS), Walworth County Historical Society (Elkhorn)
  - b) New leadership roles: Elizabeth Neumann (DPI) is considering the Chair-Elect role. If Elizabeth declines, we'll need to rethink the committee leadership positions, if only temporarily. [update: Elizabeth is confirmed for Chair-Elect as of 2/8/2023]
- 4) DPLA updates
  - a) Network Council
    - i) DPLA is discussing membership model changes but nothing specific was shared; the goal is to have something by the year's end
    - ii) There is a lot of interest from DPLA and other hubs in our advocacy work as others are struggling to find sustainable funding as well, our harmful content statement, and our statement on prison labor in digitization work
    - iii) It was asked who attends the Network Council meetings in terms of DPLA staff. John Bracken attends each meeting, Shaneé runs them, and other DPLA staffers are also in attendance
    - iv) It was asked if other hubs talked about struggles with significant cuts or sunseting considerations. While some smaller hubs are feeling pressure because of larger projects but none felt they were under immediate threat.
  - b) Digital Equity Fund/Milwaukee Women's Art Library project

- i) DPLA received funding from Mellon for the Digital Equity Fund and UWM is working with the Milwaukee Women's Art Library as a founding project of the program. The project hired a community ambassador, Celeste Contreras, in order to create a model for community ambassadors and understand UWM's appropriate role in providing support. Celeste has identified a number of groups to work with from the community.

5) Sustainability planning status and timeline updates and discussion

- a) The State of the State address was last week, and there is a significant budget surplus. Given that Tony Evers' priority is K12 education, it's good that RW's request fits there. The Governor's Budget will be announced on Feb 15, and we're confident that RW will make it through that stage. Then, the JFC works through the spring to revise and presents its version of the budget to the legislature for evaluation and voting in June.
- b) We have two paths:
  - i) The funding request is approved: \$150,000 for year one (planning for growth opportunities), \$300,000 (grow!)
  - ii) The funding request is denied: We have a verbal commitment from DPI for a single year (FY24) of LSTA funding. We could use that time to refine a cost recovery model if the Board agrees. If not, we'd need to have a bigger conversation about sustainability from a WiLS / project management contract perspective and potentially hand the project off to a different institution or plan to sunset.

6) Legislative advocacy next steps

- a) Role of WLA Library Development and Legislation Committee (LD&L)
  - i) Ann, Jen and Emily had a conversation with members of LD&L and they have decided not to include RW in advocacy messaging in order to focus on threats to intellectual freedom and their own budget increase request. This is disappointing but also helps us in that we are not attached to those contentious issues. Because we are in a good place, having an advocacy strategy in place, we can proceed as we already planned.
  - ii) We have, in the past in partnership with LD&L, provided a handout takeaway for Library Legislative Day. This year, that won't happen but our content partners at South Central Library System created their own.
- b) Review talking points
  - i) It was suggested that we make an infographic to explain our funding and spend
  - ii) What are concrete examples of what would(n't) happen if we weren't funded?
    - (1) Listening to War is a good example - deteriorating collections and continuing to do that work in a longer-term way with state funding
    - (2) Regions/communities that aren't represented will remain unrepresented (map with key areas highlighted)

- (3) Backlog of waiting organizations and why they are waiting
- (4) Curation: quick/easy access for users, like the educator content, wouldn't happen and users wouldn't be able to take advantage of the resources
- (5) Access and amplification - RCHR is open 15 hours a week in a rural community but online availability extends access to their communities; general discoverability too by amplifying impact of individual repositories
- (6) Equity - larger orgs supporting work in smaller ones - those with expertise and equipment can share them with those who don't
- (7) "All of Wisconsin" - every story counted, etc.
- (8) Portraits and quotes from constituents about the importance of RW
- iii) Schedule follow-up meetings from mid-March through mid-April with the same people
  - (1) Once dossiers are available for the new folks, Board will volunteer
  - (2) WiLS Board Member in Kenosha might be interested in attending or making a connection with the JFC member from the region
- c) Determine timeline and roles for follow-up contacts to individual legislators
  - i) The Board discussed specific strategies for meeting with the members of the JFC and a timeline for those meetings.

#### **Next meeting**

- May 5, 2023, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (virtual)