

## Legislative Committee Minutes - February 2005

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Wyoming Library Association  
Legislative Committee Meeting  
February 3, 2005  
Laramie County Library

### SUMMARY

**Present:** Maggie Farrell, Lucie Osborne, Cathy Butler, Cynthia Twing, Bill Nelson, Paul Holland, Dail Barbour, Dale Collum, members; with Lesley Boughton, State Librarian; Tom Jones, Lobbyist; Debbie Schlinger, President WLA. **Absent:** Vickie Overcast.

**Minutes:** December 9 minutes approved. Motion by Maggie Farrell & 2nd by Lucie Osborn.

**Additions to agenda:** Under Old Business - Maggie Farrell with news about Coe Library expansion. New Business - Rep Floyd Esquibel offered to introduce any librarian who came to the House of Rep. Thurs. afternoon.

### Old Business:

- Legislative reception - Elaine Hayes reported the reception will boast a new banner designed by Troy Rumpf. Mabel Wilkinson decorations designed by Tina Lackey will be the theme of the reception.
- Legislative Report - Tom Jones said the Senate Bill to eliminate State Library Board is not on general file. HB 5 which would reallocate severance tax money of \$155 million to cities, towns and counties, has been amended many times. If the counties get more money, some libraries could benefit. Discussion about whether or not to support the bill. Senator Schiffer doesn't like earmarking; Tom will check on it before WLA briefing today. **Motion to support HB 5 - Cathy Butler with amendment by Bill - "as long as it's beneficial to counties and cities". MOTION CARRIES.**
- **HB 316 - title "libraries amends".** Among other things, it cleans up statutes and language in statutes 18-7-105 which deals with organization of library boards, rules and regulations. Main concern is changing wording in statute 16-4-203 from "circulation and registration records" to "**patron transaction** and registration records". Tom said it has been "languishing" on general file for 3 days.
- **Senate File 2 - repeal water library @ UW;** don't need. Passed Senate and referred to House.
- **Special libraries representative** - Cynthia had no response when she asked for volunteers. She will discuss with Executive Board later today. May need to change committee make-up. Would the change come via the bylaws?
- **WPA's open meetings law amendment** - take no position for now because supporting the amendment may conflict with County Commissioners position.. Patty Myers, Chair of Intellectual Freedom Committee, might want to nominate WPA for IF award. Carey Hartmann recommended holding off for now.
- **Legislative Committee make-up** - Lynnette Anderson would like to be reappointed to the committee. We may not need to look further if we can have 2 academic reps. Debbie said a change in the bylaws would have to happen @ WLA business meetings. The bylaws are currently in limbo - tabled at the fall, 2004 meeting.
- **Other Old Business** - Maggie reported on the expansion and remodel of Coe Library @ UW to include the 94,500 gross square feet ILLC (Information Library and Learning Center", increasing the total Coe Library building to 281,000 gross square feet. It has a hefty price tag @ \$45 million, but she is hopeful. Maggie said she's been asked about the impact of Google's digitization project on libraries. As an association we might want to dialogue about how technology **enhances** libraries when we're asked about the **impact** of technology on libraries.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **State Librarian's report** - not much in the way of federal issues. Lesley says Senator Enzi gave a good interview to Tina Lackey and Susan Vittitow for the next Round-up. He is Chair of Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee.
- **National Legislative Day** in Washington, D.C. is May 3 & 4. Travel is in the budget. Lesley and Paul will go.
- **Legislative Committee's duties for WLA/MPLA in October 2005 in Jackson.** Discussion of the duties of the vice-chairs - who does what? Bylaws do not delineate duties of state issues & education vice chairs. State issues cover specific legislation. Education involves how to lobby, and education of WLA members. Dail suggested that there be a description of their duties, perhaps in bylaws. Discussion - cumbersome and burdensome to include in bylaws because we would have to wait for a business meeting to change. Leg. Comm. does not have a separate set of bylaws. Agreed it was a good idea to have job descriptions for Leg. Com. Duties and give to Executive Secretary to pass out for new members.
- Dale's report on education - sent out information to Directors to get in touch with new legislators - offer a tour of the library, etc. Dale sent info on WPA legislation and library amends bill. Anything else he needs to get out to members? Not yet.

**NEXT MEETING - If need arises for a meeting, have a phone conference.**

**Discussion about our duties for WLA/MPLA conference this fall. The program committee for WLA is leaning away from a legislative luncheon.**

**Suggestions:** Possible panel on different funding models of surrounding states - what's good and what's bad? Who would be the audience?

How do MPLA & WLA work in terms of program planning? Might want to make it more of a federal focus than state legislature.

*Possible IMLS panel to discuss federal legislation: Bob Martin, Director of IMLS (Institute of Museum & Library Services); Maggie Scarlett, serves on Board of National Museum & Library Services - advisory Bd. for IMLS; Amy Owen, also Board member of NMLS & past Utah State Librarian, and Alice Meister.*

**Cynthia will send an email to Erin Kinney, WLA Vice-Chair, endorsing Maggie Farrell's suggestion of the panel.**

Submitted by  
Vicki Roth