

BRaille AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY USER ADVISORY COUNCIL DRAFT 1.1
Approved at meeting of March 4, 2017)
December 3, 2016

Attendees:

Members present: Margie Donovan (Folsom), Mary Willows (Pleasanton), Hi Cohen (Stockton), Roslyn McCoy (Mount Shasta), Karen Parsegian (Sacramento), Gil Johnson (San Leandro), Shannon Ramsay (Davis), Alan Smith (Concord)

Staff present: Mike Marlin (Director), Mary Jane Kayes (Librarian), Donna Scales (Reader Advisory Supervisor)

Note Taker: Mary Willows

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME:

The tenth meeting (fourth of 2016) of the Braille and Talking Book Library User Advisory Council was called to order at 10:30 AM by Chair Alan Smith. All members and staff introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was distributed and opted by unanimous consent.

Adoption of Minutes of July 30, 2016

Passed unanimously.

BTBL Library Director's Report

- Ms. Sandra Swafford (a longtime BTBL Narration volunteer) who has served on the California State Library Foundation Board of Directors recently resigned. She had for many years represented BTBL on the board. Mike asked for recommendations or a volunteer who would be interested in filling this vacancy.
- 2017 NLS Library Standards section on staffing is being updated. Mike asked Council members to look it over for suggestions.
- Currently, there are two staff positions vacant at the BTBL: Office Assistant (Circulation) and Electronics Technician to be reclassified in order to become a Narration Studio Coordinator.
- NLS Radio/TV Spots being circulated. Mike will provide link to Council so they can check them out.
- RUB (Rating Unrated Books): There will be an announcement in the next BTBL newsletter asking for volunteers who are interested in rating commercially provided books that are not rated by NLS. They could be rated by patrons as well as sighted volunteers.

- Patron centric mode: A cartridge is assigned to a patron who can request multiple titles to be copied to the cartridge. The Reader Advisor can send up to ten books at a time. The goal is to start project in early 2017.
- Bookshare pilot being investigated for CA patrons.
- PIMMS (Patron Information Machine Management System) generally running smoothly since 9/1/16 implementation date, – cloud based info reconciliation between network libraries and NLS.
- There will be an exhibit on the wall next to the governor's office about BTBL. It will consist of a panel of pictures and captions along with a tactile map of California made by the Lighthouse for the Blind. It is to go up for the week of January 9-15. It is intended to educate the public and the legislature about the library services for non-print readers.
- The Marrakesh Treaty or cross border sharing of alternate format materials. The Accessible Books Consortium would make it possible for English speaking countries to share their books with the U.S. and vice versa, and other language group blocks would benefit. Publisher associations (including AAP) are resistant and wish to reintroduce barriers such as commercial availability and recordkeeping that had already been stricken from the treaty. We are asked not to write letters at this time to our senators.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Reports

California Library Association Conference Presentation Update: Chair Alan Smith

Alan thanked Margie, Rosalyn, Mary Jane and Donna for their presentations. Mary Jane filled in for Mike who was not able to be there. The presentation was titled "Braille and Talking Book Library: It's Not Just for the Blind" on November 4 in Sacramento. 36 attended with 28 submitting evaluations. The evaluations were very positive with the average score being over 4.5 on a scale where 5 was the best.

Selection Committee: Chair Margie Donovan

Margie reported there were four applicants to fill vacancies on the BUAC. The Committee recommends three to serve on the BUAC. Lenore Presley is deaf and blind. She will add input from the deaf blind community to the BUAC. She will need an interpreter for meetings.

Also recommended is Richard Rueda who works with blind and visually impaired youth.

Lastly, the committee recommends Janet Snow who is from Redding. Margie moved to accept the Recommendations of the committee. Seconded by Karen. Motion passed.

Committee members who wish to renew are Alan, Margie, Rosalyn and Karen. Hy moved and Gil seconded to accept the renewal of these four members.

Alan Smith noted that based on the current bylaws, after 2018 he can no longer be a member. Mike suggested the bylaws could be revised.

ELECTIONS

The positions of Chair, Vice-chair and Secretary were open. The two consumer organization representatives are appointed by their President of the organization.

Gil Johnson was elected as Chair. Moved by Alan, seconded by Shannon. He is elected to serve a two year term.

Alan Smith was elected as Vice-Chair. Motion by Gil with a second by Karen.

Hy Cohen was elected Secretary. Motion by Hy with a second by Karen.

Legislative Tour: Chair Alan Smith

There was a discussion as to where BUAC could set up an exhibit in the state capitol building. Mike is to arrange for possible sites. Dates to be considered later.

(subsequent Feb 1 date in Capitol Room 125 postponed until tentative date of May 3.

Outreach Committee – Chair Karen Parsegian

Karen and Mary Jane will attend a program for Ambassadors and volunteers on December 8. Karen will compile the list of talking points. Mike will send a similar document to Karen

New Online Catalog

There was a general discussion about some of the improvements sorely needed with the new system. Mike will, if possible, obtain the address of the vendor so that members could write as individuals to the company after he speaks to State Librarian Greg Lucas.

Strategic Plan:

Director Mike Marlin has written goals and direction for the library services for the BTBL. There is a need for more volunteers to duplicate digital books on demand. We need to devote more effort to outreach.

Mike would like members of the committee to send email messages with suggestions for what might be included in the strategic plan for the BTBL.

NEW BUSINESS

Action items: It is suggested that action items should be made clear at the end of each meeting. Alan will send the agenda format to Hy so that he uses it as an outline when writing minutes.

Next meeting date will be March 4, 2017. Due to the schedule change of the Capitol Corridor it will start at 10:30. Additional breaks will be added, so the meeting may end at 4:00.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00

Minutes prepared by Mary Willows.