

**BRaille AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY USER ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Provisional Minutes (Slated to be voted on at meeting of December 3, 2016)**  
**July 30, 2016**  
**DRAFT 1.3**

**Attendees:**

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

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

**Note Taker:** Mary Willows

**INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME:**

The ninth meeting (third of 2016) of the Braille and Talking Book Library User Advisory Council was called to order at 10:15 AM by President Alan Smith. It was announced that student member Rio Popper had resigned due to school schedule conflicts. All members and staff introduced themselves. A warm welcome was extended to new member/CCB representative Gil Johnson who introduced himself and gave his background and reasons for joining BUAC.

**Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was distributed. Margie Donovan moved to adopt. Seconded by Shannon Ramsay. Motion passed.

**Adoption of Minutes of July 30, 2016**

Moved by Hi Cohen, Seconded by Karen Parsegian. Passed unanimously.

**BTBL Library Director's Report**

Mike discussed future NLS innovations in the context of the draft strategic plan, i.e. the recent amendment to the NLS equipment rules that will allow for distribution of eReaders (refreshable braille displays) once funding for low cost displays is secured by NLS, the soon to be released BARD Express software for easier unzipping and transferring of BARD files, the UCLA report that estimates the visually impaired population in the U.S. will double by 2030, and more. Mike agreed to talk to State Librarian Greg Lucas about the desire of both consumer agencies to draft resolutions urging the California Senate and Assembly to consider more legislative and budgetary support for library services to the blind and print disabled in California.

Mike also discussed the library's presence at the California State Fair in July with the history of transportation exhibit, recruitment for Duplication on Demand volunteers as well as RUB (Rating Unrated Books) volunteers, the transition to Patron Information and Machine Management System (PIMMS) on September 17 for real time, cloud based data shared between network libraries and NLS, Patron-Centric cartridge program requiring coding by Integrated Library System (ILS) vendor hopefully for early to mid-2017, possibilities of future tech innovations from NLS including wireless delivery

machines, NLS Network Consultant visit in May, Regional Library of the Year Award application suggestion, and accessibility issues with font alteration for Kindle text for low vision users.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Committee Reports**

#### **California Library Association Conference Presentation Update: Chair Alan Smith**

Alan, Mike, Margie and Rosalyn will be presenting on the topic of "Braille and Talking Book Library: It's Not Just for the Blind" on November 4 in Sacramento. A conference call with the participants will be held later to finalize coordination.

#### **Selection Committee: Chair Margie Donovan**

The newly organized Selection Committee is responsible for vetting new applications during November and making recommendations to the BUAC for membership. The Committee members are Margie Donovan, Gil Johnson, Shannon Ramsay and Mike Marlin. The committee will meet by conference call in November and report to the BUAC in December.

#### **BUAC Term Limits**

Members can serve two terms of two years each. Members who wish to serve an additional term may do so in the event there are vacancies. Margie moved adoption of the term changes. Rosalyn seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. (A copy of the entire by-laws is available on the BUAC website.)

Alan and Margie gave notice that they wish to serve another two year term. Alan has served the maximum for president of the BUAC. Elections will be held in December for president and vice president.

#### **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 a tour of possible sites. Dates to be considered will be held at the December meeting.

#### **Strategic Plan:**

Director Mike Marlin has written goals and direction for the library services for the BTBL. There is a need for volunteers to duplicate digital books. 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.

#### **Outreach Committee – Chair Karen Parsegian**

Alan Smith initiated discussion on the value of contacting California legislators to ask that the link to the BTBL be added to the "Resources" link on their websites. Karen

Parsegian agreed it was a very good idea. As Chairperson of the Outreach Committee, Karen confirmed that members interested in working on outreach and meet with Mary Jane are Mary, Margie, Rosalyn, Shannon and Alan. Karen said that a meeting would be held within the next three weeks. She will send out email messages to set up a conference call. Mike asked that the committee research free conference calling options.

**On-line Catalog-**

Alan Smith suggested that staff consider using a more distinct color contrast on the website to find the link for “next page”. Also, “Search” options might be expanded to allow for parts of authors name.

**Proposed Name Change**

After a discussion, it was agreed that a name change would not be pursued.

**Next meeting date** will be December 3.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45.