ILHB Taskforce on Public Library Standards
10:00 a.m., Monday, April 7, 2014
Wabash Carnegie Public Library

Notes

Members Present: Michelle Bradley, Don Crankshaw, Kelly Currie, Stephanie Davis, David Eisen, Mary Emmrich, Ruth Frasur, Kathryn Gerber, Wendy Knapp, Nancy M. Knochel, Beth Booth Poor, Terry Rensberger, Nick Schenkel, Laurel Setser (Chair), Christine Sterle, Patty Stringfellow, Cheryl Wright,

Guests Present: Sara O'Sha, Steven Schmidt, Jill Strange,

On the phone: Gabrielle Carr, David Sams

Not present: Andrea Ingmire

Laurel Setser called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. Due to technical issues, the two people on the telephone were not able to participate in this meeting.

The location of the next meeting was announced as the Monroe County PL, Ellettsville branch; however the date was still pending.

Wendy Knapp stated that the reason we have public library standards is IC 4-23-7.1-11, which requires the ISL to "establish operating standards and rules for libraries eligible to receive funds, either federal or state, under the provisions of any program for which the Indiana state library is the administrator. The Indiana state library shall monitor libraries eligible to receive funds or receiving funds to ascertain whether or not the standards and rules are being met."

Laurel and Wendy defined the purpose of this taskforce as an advisory review panel which would look at the existing standards (590 IAC 6) and to make recommendations to the ILHB meeting in December.

Wendy reviewed the results of a brief survey which was sent out to all public library directors to identify the parts of the standards that they felt most needed attention. A lengthy discussion came

up with some common themes emerging:

- The Enhanced & Exceptional ranking have not lived up to the expected purpose. A general consensus was that they should be dropped.
- The term "Basic" should be replaced with the concept of a library being in compliance with standards.
- Thresholds above the compliance standard should be expressed as goals.
- If a library exceeds the basic compliance, that should be shown in the annual report. An automatic report of standards compliance should appear as a bar chart in the annual report.
- The requirement for a certain number of days for Info Express was not in keeping with the real need of libraries.
- Standardize on per system vs. per location.
- The number of required programs is excessive
- Clarify staffing requirements
- The three classes, A, B, & C, do not provide enough granularities for realistic comparisons. For example, Class C should have one group serving less than 5,000 and another 5,000-10,000 population.
- The standard for the number of computers and wireless node counts as ten users is outdated.
- Compare internet access speed with national standards for broadband
- Track the number of times a library maxes out their pipeline.
- Tech standards should be fluid.
- Ebooks and other downloadables need to count as well as print use.
- Evening hours should start after 5pm not 6pm.
- Phrase the standards as the ISL's attempt to help libraries, not to punish them.
- Overall the concept is to attempt to simplify the standards.

The ISL will compile a draft revision of the standards reflecting these changes for discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01.

The next meeting will be held:

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10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Thursday, June 26, 2014
Monroe County Public Library, Ellettsville Branch
600 W. Temperance Street
Ellettsville, IN 47429

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