

Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting
August 23, 2007
MINUTES

Committee members, partners & others attending: Irwin Hott, Cheryl Blevins, Mona Pocatko, Barbara Mates, Donna Foust, Joel Husenits, Katherine Kadish, Sandy Turner, Jim Buchman, and Laura Watkins (guest).

INTRODUCTIONS: The meeting was held at the State Library of Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M. by Irwin Hott. Each attendee introduced him or herself.

MINUTES: Sandy Turner moved and Mona Pocatko seconded approval of the April 19, 2007 meeting minutes as submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion & Recommendations for Replacement Members to New Terms Beginning in October 2007: The committee discussed recommendations for new members and reappointments to the committee. Recommendations will be presented for approval at the October 25, 2007 State Library Board Meeting.

Update: The following individuals were appointed by the State Library Board to serve terms from November 1, 2007 – October 30, 2010: George Pyle, Susan Blaha, Peggie Igo, Margaret Stocker, Jenine Stanley.

REGIONAL REPORTS:

Cincinnati LBPH: Donna Foust reported that the LBPH has had many veterans contacting them to update their veteran status in the KLAS database as a result of a newsletter article sent out by the LBPH. This was done in preparation for distribution of the new digital talking book machines (DTBM), which gives priority to veterans.

Donna was the only Ohio representative at the 2007 KLAS Conference. Cincinnati will host the 2008 Conference, which will include a pre-conference tour of the American Printing House for the Blind in Louisville, KY. She recommended that Ohio migrate to the newest version of the KLAS software Version 7 prior to the 2008 conference.

Donna reported that as a result of Cleveland LBPH sending out a mailing & brochure about additional resources available from the regional libraries, usage of descriptive videos is way up.

Cleveland LBPH: Barbara Mates reported that Cleveland, like Cincinnati, has been extremely busy with over 100 calls a day since the mailing. Every Playaway purchased using State Library LSTA grant funds is in circulation. The main library and three branches are supplementing the grant by assisting the LBPH with the in-coming phone calls for these materials.

Barbara also reported on the success of the annual Family Fun & Learning Day, which was held on June 20th. Stephen Prine from the National Library Service welcomed the group. It was a *fun* day that included an interesting *hats-on* presentation about the history of hats.

NFB (National Federation of the Blind): Irwin Hott reported that he attended the NFB Conference in July. He reported that NLS did not get full funding for production of the DTBM. It is expected that this will extend the transition period to move from cassette machines to digital machines.

ETECH Ohio Commission: Sandy Turner reported that she will hand out Talking Book Program brochures at the upcoming Technology Conference. This is attended mostly by teachers and educators.

OPLIN (Ohio Public Library Information Network): Joel Husenits introduced Laura Watkins who is a new employee at OPLIN. Joel also reported that OPLIN will begin offering a new web hosting service to libraries. He expects mostly mid-sized libraries to contract with OPLIN for this service.

Old Business:

Action Item: Approval of Priority Groupings for Distribution of Digital Talking Book Machines (DTBMs). The committee reviewed and discussed the policy that was drafted from discussion at the April 19, 2007 CAC meeting. Mona Pocatko moved and Sandy Turner seconded approval of the priority groupings as changed. The motion passed unanimously. The policy will be presented for approval at the October 25, 2007 State Library Board meeting.

Update: The State Library Board approved the policy with minor changes at its October 25, 2007 meeting. A copy of the board approved policy is available on

the State Library's web site:

http://www.library.ohio.gov/services/tlkbk_distpolicy.html

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Jim Buchman