

METROPOLITAN NEW YORK LIBRARY COUNCIL
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, May 12, 2014
3:00pm to 5:00pm

Minutes

Present: Joshua Greenberg, Milan Hughston, Norman Jacknis, James Neal, Jeffery Olson, Patricia Skarulis, Ann Thornton

Not Present: Thomas Galante, LaRuth Gray, Betty Rosa, Louis Zacharilla

Staff: Jason Kucsma

Norman Jacknis brought the meeting to order at approximately 3:06pm.

The meeting began with a brief background and introduction to the board about guest speaker, Jamie LaRue of LaRue & Associates Consulting (*formerly, Director, Douglas County Public Library System*). LaRue gave a 30 minute presentation titled "From Gatekeeper to Gardener," which detailed his work at Douglas County Public Library to create an ebook platform independent from distributor content that is "leased" to libraries. The presentation was followed by brief Q&A and some comments from Jacknis contextualizing this conversation as part of the board's strategic planning discussions.

Jacknis announced that Jeff Olsen will be leaving the board, as Vice President, and relocating to Utah. He congratulated Jeff and thanked him for his time and service. Jeff Olsen expressed his thanks and gave a brief description of his new role/capacity. The board expressed their thanks and well wishes.

Ann Thornton provided an overview of the 2013-14 FY financial statement. This statement was discussed recently with the finance committee and they discussed possible advocacy work around delayed funding we receive (specifically Documentary Heritage Program).

Thornton gave an overview of the projected budget for FY 2014-15. She pointed out the attached *Budget Notes* and explained that they indicate how the projected budget was formed. Thornton invited questions and comments from the board. Kucsma mentioned that the budget reflects ramping up new programs and services that have been well-received. Jacknis motioned to approve the budget. Skarulis seconded. The board voted unanimously to approve the budget.

Lawi Laktabai, Finance Manager, entered the meeting. Jason Kucsma thanked Ann and the finance committee for their help with the budget and announced that Lawi Laktabai is resigning from his position at METRO, effective 5/16/2014. He will be moving back to Kenya. Jason explained that Shelly Mohammed will replace Lawi and is now in training. Shelly comes from the accounting firm that audits METRO. The board thanked and wished Lawi the best. Lawi exited the meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

Kucsma provided a brief update on METRO activities:

ESDN (Empire State Digital Network)

- New project manager hired.
- Metadata specialist also hired, will start in June.

- First advisory council meeting this Thursday, 5/15/2014.
- Anticipate that METRO will be contributing content to the DPLA by Sept.-Oct. 2014.

National Digital Stewardship Residency Program

- Received 21 proposals from host institutions, five were chosen.
- Residents have until May 30, 2014 to submit applications.

Wikipedian-in-Residence

- Continues to be an ambassador locally with training resources, workshops, edit-a-thons, etc.
- Also helps position METRO internationally with GLAM community

Islandora Digital Collection Platform

- Continued development to replace prior proprietary system
- Anticipate the service will be up and running by Sept - Oct, 2014.

Membership Updates

- Highest number of individual members (300+)
- Five new institutional members pending

Special Interest Groups

- New groups

IMLS Focus Funding Priorities Discussion (JK sat on panel discussion)

- Kucsma sat on panel moderated by Josh Greenberg, focused on role that systems/consortia like METRO can play in scaling up digital capacity for smaller and medium-sized institutions.

James Neal requested a revision to the previous board meeting minutes to note him as present (via phone). Jacknis motioned to accept minutes with revision, seconded by Milan Hughston. The board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Before the meeting was adjourned, Jacknis mentioned the Executive Director's upcoming annual review. Jason Kucsma explained he will be taking family leave in the near future, for about three weeks with some remote work.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17pm.

The next board meeting is Monday, September 8, 2014, 3-5pm at METRO.