

MINUTES
NN/LM MIDCONTINENTAL REGION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
December 7, 2006 – 1:00 PM MT

Advisory Board Members Attending:

Jim Bothmer, Karen Cole, Linda Cooperstock, Whitney Davison-Turley, Amanda Enyeart, Gene Hainer, Mike Karr, Stan Penfold

RML Staff Members Attending:

Claire Hamasu, Dana Abbey, John Bramble, Siobhan Champ-Blackwell, Sharon Dennis, Mary Henning, Barbara Jones, Betsy Kelly, Marty Magee, Suzanne Sawyer

Intros – Advisory Board Members

Whitney Davison-Turley

Whitney is a former liaison of the RML but is now Information Services Manager at the Johnson County Library. Johnson County Library has received funding from the RML. Her library is hiring a consumer health librarian.

Stan Penfold

Stan is Director of the Utah AIDS Foundation. The AIDS Foundation has also received funding from the RML for setting up information kiosks in health clinics. The entire Resource Library/Center was initially funded through a grant from NLM and the Foundation's partnership with Eccles has been critical to the program.

Gene Hainer

Gene is the Director/State Librarian at the Colorado State Library in Denver. The State Library is a unit of the CO Department of Education, which is located in Denver. The Library has worked with health-related issues in the past through its aclin.org website, which is now known as the Colorado Virtual Library (CVL), one of several services provided for the state's library community. Several years ago it explored having libraries build and maintain relevant content built around specific topics, with health being one of the first areas explored. After creating collection development procedures for online content, the site was managed by staff at the UCDHSC. The CVL has gone in different directions since then, but some of the policies are still employed today for content management.

Follow up to RAB outcomes discussion

At the last advisory board meeting Stan Penfold and Betsy Kelly were to come up with a way for the advisory board to share what they have been doing to promote NLM and NN/LM resources and services. They recommended that in discussions with their liaisons that board members relate appropriate activities. The RML has an online reporting system that is used to capture staff activities. Liaisons will enter these advisory board activities into this reporting system. There was no disagreement.

Discussion of Emergency Planning:

One of the charges in the RFP that was issued by the National Library of Medicine was for the RMLs to develop an emergency management plan for the region. Recently the RMLs decided that this responsibility lent itself to collaborative attention, since an effective plan could not be established without the support and cooperation of organizations beyond each region. To start our planning, Claire asked the advisory board to voice the questions that need to be addressed for libraries in the region to continue to provide health care providers with the information they need to care for the public in the event of an emergency. She also asked them to mention the emergency planning projects they are involved in, in their own states.

Jim raised the issue of digital resources. With health sciences libraries moving to digital resources, how will information be provided if the Internet is not available?

Two emergency preparedness efforts are being funded in the region by Homeland Security, the Denver Public Library and the public health department in Missouri. Claire asked Linda and Gene who their partners were for emergency planning. Linda said that her organization partners with community organizations with facilities for large groups of people, such as churches or schools. One of their main objectives is having facilities to allow for getting immunizations, etc. to large groups quickly. Gene's partner is the Department of Education because the library is part of the DOE.

Stan asked for clarification on the types of emergencies we would be planning for. Would we be planning for emergencies such as earthquakes where the infrastructure goes down or are we planning for getting out information in a health emergency? Different types of emergencies would call for very different responses. We need to plan for different types of emergencies. We could then determine which partners will be needed and their roles in different situations.

Claire would like the advisory board to help determine the questions and issues that need to be addressed in emergency planning. These will be combined with the issues that the Resource Library Directors brought up. The emergency plan will be a work in progress over the next couple of years. The regional plan will need to coordinate with the national plan that the NN/LM regions and NLM will be developing.

Karen brought up a concern about how libraries would support other libraries in providing information, when you don't have the infrastructure due to disasters. The normal methods of electronic distribution will likely not be available. Who would provide backup? Where should there be redundancies?

- Linda said that HAM radios could be used and shared that there is a network of radio operators in Missouri.
- Gene shared that radio stations were used for communication during the recent earthquake in Hawaii.
- Stan wondered about having satellite access to the Internet. How accessible would those systems be? How secure would they be? Claire stated that the RML has looked into satellite access and it is very expensive, but Stan thought that it might be good

for key facilities to have the access. It is also an emerging technology and might get more affordable over time.

Whitney pointed out that public libraries are closer to most people than academic or health sciences libraries. It might be a good idea to have core reference books that we make sure are updated in all public libraries.

Gene brought up the point of knowing who's in charge during various types of emergencies. Linda said that this is important to determine before determining what needs to be done for various situations. Who declares an emergency? It may depend on the emergency. For example, the health department would have the authority in a health related emergency. How will communication be routed? Who starts the communication?

Announcements:

Year 2 Budget –

Claire shared the budget reduction that the RML will have in year 2. It is about 24% less than what we had requested. The good news is that it is about an 11% increase over this year's budget.

We will have to cut back on what we had planned to do in year 2. Claire has asked the liaisons to meet with board members to review the year 2 logic models and what is planned for year 2. Any advice the board members can give the liaisons on setting priorities will be appreciated. The liaisons will be contacting the advisory board members to set up meetings.

In person meeting – April 10 – 11

Claire asked the advisory board members to save April 10-11, 2007 for an in person board meeting in Salt Lake City. The board members will be able to attend InfoFair, the Eccles library's annual technology and information event. The topic for the 2007 InfoFair hasn't been determined yet. Claire will send the topic out as soon as the decision is made.

The in person meeting is possible because of the salary saving due to not having anyone in the Kansas Liaison position this year. The RML will cover expenses for the advisory board meeting.

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