

Lancaster County Public Libraries Task Force (PLTF)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 17, 2010
7:30 AM

Attendance

Task Force Members: Terry Kauffman; Chair; Lester Houck; Bonita Martin; Jim Martin; John McGrann; Bud Rettew, Diane Rice.

Guests: Barbara Basile, Director, Manheim Library; Deb Beisell, Director, Elizabethtown Library; Sandy Dinoff, Library System Board; Kristin Fernitz, Director, Strasburg-Heisler Library; Margie Perella, Director, Pequea Valley Public Library (Intercourse); Debra Rosser-Hogben, Milanof-Schock Library; Heather Sharpe, Lancaster Library; Frances Vita, Director, Quarryville Library. **Library System Staff:** Susan Hauer; Mary Ann Heltshe-Steinhauer; Bill Hudson; Donna Westerhoff.

Call to Order

Chair Terry Kauffman called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Kauffman asked for approval of the minutes of the December 16, 2009, meeting.

APPROVAL: On motion and second, the PLTF approved the minutes of the December 16, 2009, meeting, as distributed.

Visits to Other Library Systems

To date, the Task Force has visited Chester and Dauphin County Library Systems. Chester County has 101 employees and 19 outlets. Lancaster has a comparable number of outlets. The Dauphin County system is consolidated.

Visits to York County is scheduled for February 24; and to Berks County, postponed until March 10.

Report of the Chair

Regional Public Meetings. Two regional meetings have been held so far: at Milanof-Schock and Ephrata. Both went well, giving the Task Force a chance to explain its purpose.

Meetings still to be held are scheduled for Thursday evenings, 7:00 PM, at the following libraries:

- February 18 – Pequea Valley
- February 25 – Lancaster
- March 25 – Quarryville (postponed from February 11)

Final Report Discussions and Timelines/Procedures

Kauffman reported that an independent writer, with no allegiance to libraries or the System, will be hired to write the findings of the Task Force. He will be paid by the Office of the Aging.

Task Force members were asked to each develop a list of what they would like the Task Force to consider and investigate. The list should be thought-provoking, short- or long-term, and could consider such topics as staffing, fundraising, consolidation, etc. Lists should be sent to Donna Westerhoff. The lists will be given to the writer, and he will write recommendations based on the lists, in language that all can understand. The Task Force has gathered a lot of information that now has to be put into a useful form. The Task Force wants this to be their story.

During March and April, information will be gathered and the report written. Its development will be an open process with input from the library community.

Meeting With System Board

The Task Force will meet with the System Board to gain the Board's insights on thoughts for the Task Force to consider as they formulate their final report. The Task Force was invited to attend the next meeting of the System Board Committee Work Session, scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, at the System office. The Task Force will be put on the agenda at 5:00 PM.

Future Task Force Meetings. The next regular meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays, March 3 and March 17, 7:30 AM.

Kauffman asked for more points to discuss, and there were none.

The public meeting was adjourned at 8:20 AM. The Task Force met among themselves for an additional half hour.

Submitted by
Donna Westerhoff