

# **Metropolitan Library Service Agency Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

Friday, February 11, 2022  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
9:00am-12:00pm

## **Advisory Board Members/Representatives Present:**

Anoka:	not present	Ramsey:	Karen Saltis
Carver:	Heidi Hoks	Saint Paul:	Catherine Penkert
Dakota:	Margaret Stone	Scott:	Jacob Grussing
Hennepin:	Johannah Genett, Amy McNally (delegates)		
Washington:	Amy Stenftenagel		

## **Staff Present:**

Gina Goettl, Sally Lederer, Kathleen James, Mona Scott and Scott Vrieze

### **I. Call to order**

Chair Stenftenagel called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

### **II. Introductions and Welcome**

### **III. Consent Agenda**

- a) Approval of Agenda
- b) Approval of Meeting Minutes (January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022)

Motion to approve the agenda and meeting minutes by Grussing. Second by Stone.

All in favor signified by saying aye.

ACL – not present	HCL - aye	SCL – aye
CCL – aye	RCL - aye	WCL – aye
DCL - aye	SPL - aye	

Motion carried.

### **IV. Discussion/Action Items**

- a) Consideration of proposed use/allocation of RLTA Category 3 funds

State Library Services has released regional distribution numbers for FY2022 RLTA Category 3 funds and MELSA's share is \$168,016.40. Category 3 funds are funds remaining in the RLTA program after Category 1 (internet and line access) and Category

2 (equipment) application costs are covered for the 12 regions in the state. As per the statute, Category 3 funds can be used “for the improvement of internet access and access to technology with items that are not e-rated, including, but not limited to, digital or online resources.”

Motion to accept the recommendation from the Technology Team to distribute FY2022 RLTA Category 3 funds to library systems for local spending using the suggested allocation formula by Penkert. Second by Saltis.

All in favor signified by saying aye.

ACL – not present	HCL - aye	SCL – aye
CCL – aye	RCL - aye	WCL – aye
DCL - aye	SPL - aye	

Motion carried.

b) Consideration of proposed reapportionment of Teen Lit Con funds

Due to the cancellation of the 2022 Teen Lit Con the Legacy funds budgeted need to be reallocated and spent by June 30, 2023. The board preference is to retain the allocation for teen programming. Kathleen James will go back to Youth Services Team and Teen Services Interest Group to determine best means for utilizing the funds in the time allowed.

c) Discussion of mandated reporter status and public library staff

Recent changes to the language of the “mandated reporter” statute (Minn. Stat. 260E.066 Subd. 2) have come to the attention of two MELSA teams, Youth Services and Teen services bringing forth a discussion to the board to determine how it is being interpreted across the region. Two MELSA systems, St. Paul and Dakota, are interpreting the changes as moving some library, as well as parks and recreation, staff into mandated reporter status.

Responses from other systems: Scott County determined that at this time that staff are not mandated reporters, but anyone can and should report if child abuse is suspected. Washington County will be checking with the County Attorney. Hennepin will also be checking with the County Attorney. Ramsey County has not had a conversation with the County Attorney yet.

d) Legislative advocacy in the upcoming session

Vrieze shared a spreadsheet with information about local representatives and shared this with the Advisory Board. This is meant to be a shared resource and can be updated when contact has been made or meetings have been set with any of these representatives. There has been some interest in authoring a bill, but no commitment at

this time. Directors requested information sheets and applicable bill numbers. Vrieze clarified there are no new bill numbers, but there are bill numbers from last legislative session and will provide that to directors. Vrieze will have another meeting with Liz to determine next steps.

e) State Fair Read and Ride Day

Prior to accepting the MN State Fair's invitation to return for Read & Ride Day the question was raised as to the value of our being there given time and expense. James outlined an event scaled back to reduce need for staffing. Utilizing previous evaluation results the largest draw to the park is the stage, that element would be the primary focus of the budget. The directors weighed other factors such as the gate ticket discount for showing a public library card, media opportunities for MELSA communications manager, Sally Lederer, and the advocacy possibilities of being at the MNSF for a day. The directors agreed to utilize a meeting to craft specific advocacy messaging.

Motion to move ahead with hosting Read and Ride Day at the MN State Fair, with the addition of advocacy messaging as determined by the Advisory Board. Motion by Stone. Second by Grussing.

All in favor signified by saying aye.

ACL – not present	HCL - aye	SCL – aye
CCL – aye	RCL - aye	WCL – aye
DCL - aye	SPL - aye	

Motion carried.

## V. Adjourn

Stenftenagel adjourned the meeting at 10:13am.