

**MLS REFERENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 13, 2007

I. WELCOME

The MLS Reference Advisory Committee met at the Metropolitan Library System on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

In attendance were:

Amy Affelt, Lexecon
Sheri Daun-Bedford, Woodridge Public Library
Melissa Gardner, Berkeley Public Library District
R. Toby Greenwalt, Westmont Public Library
Megan Heligas, Flossmoor Public Library
Victoria Maxwell, Saint Isaac Jogues School
Rebecca Scott, Downers Grove North High School
Leslie Warren, Moraine Valley Community College Library
Tatiana Weinstein, Lisle Public Library

Also present were Cherie Calvin, David Seleb, and Gretel Stock-Kupperman, MLS staff.

Stock Kupperman managed the meeting until Seleb's arrival and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the new Committee member, Rebecca Scott, from Downers Grove North High School.

II. REVIEW OF DECEMBER 5, 2006 MINUTES

One revision: Page 2, Under Discussion of Statement of Standards, paragraph 8 should state: "Maxwell asked if the Standards will be required of the member libraries."

III. REVIEW OF COMPILED STANDARDS

Stock-Kupperman asked the Committee if they had any comments regarding the compiled standards document.

The Committee reviewed the document and discussed the revisions.

Stock-Kupperman asked what the next steps should be.

Seleb stated that the final document will be presented to the MLS Advisory Committee for their comments. The document will also be presented to the MLS Board of Directors as a courtesy. Results will be presented to the Reference Advisory Committee.

Seleb stated the standards will not have the weight of enforcement as past documents but it still maintains its validity.

Seleb also stated that the Reference Advisory Committee will determine how the standards should be disseminated, the entire MLS membership should be informed of its origin, and that it was reviewed by another group, and the MLS Board of Directors.

Seleb asked the Committee for their comments.

Stock-Kupperman suggested the following:

- Send revised standards to the Committee members for a final revision and vote.
- Present standards in May to the MLS Advisory Committee for their comments.
- Feature standards as a lead article in the June or July issue of the MLS newsletter, which will reach the entire membership.
- Present standards to the MLS Board of Directors.
- Committee will determine dissemination of document.

Warren asked if the standards should be presented to the broader membership for comments or as a source of information.

The Committee was in favor of the standards being presented to the MLS members as a final document and should reflect who created it.

Stock-Kupperman stated she will update the standards, the introduction will reflect who created it, and the next revision due date will be 2012.

IV. CORE REFERENCE LISTS

Seleb stated there are core reference lists for some of the library types. The core lists were created when SLS had a reference service that required libraries to abide by the lists in order to receive reference services. However, this type of enforcement no longer exists but the lists still maintain their usefulness.

Seleb asked the Committee for their viewpoints.

Daun-Bedford stated that Youth Services core reference list was never enforced but was used as a guide.

Stock-Kupperman stated that Core reference lists have been created for public, youth services, schools K-8, and high schools.

Seleb stated that the core reference lists need to be updated. The list for public libraries was updated four years ago.

Daun-Bedford stated that the youth services core reference list was updated last fall.

Stock-Kupperman stated it would not be possible to create a list for special and academic libraries.

Seleb proposed appointing a subcommittee to work on updating the lists.

The Committee was in favor of Seleb's proposal.

A discussion ensued as to whether the core reference lists be a specific resource or a list of guidelines to cover indispensable needs.

Stock-Kupperman asked if there was a way to utilize a more interactive tool to revise the lists or look at revising certain sections of the list every year.

Seleb stated that an electronic tool, like a wiki, could be used and a subcommittee could be formed that rotates every year or two to work on the document. They would have access to the information, could update it, collect or make recommendations for their colleagues, or link the document to a variety of external sources.

Stock-Kupperman asked would this interactive tool serve the library types that need this kind of list (i.e., schools) or should a separate list be created.

The Committee was in favor of a wiki that would host the formal core lists as well as interactive tools to hold resources suggested by system librarians.

Seleb asked the Committee if they felt comfortable seeking volunteers to serve on subcommittees.

The Committee replied yes.

Seleb requested that the names of volunteers be forwarded to him electronically.

V. REFERENCE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE/WIKI

Stock-Kupperman demonstrated a wiki prototype.

Seleb asked the Committee their opinion regarding using the wiki as a tool to work on the core reference lists.

The Committee was in favor of using a wiki. However, they expressed concerns regarding control access and locking certain pages/documents which the current free software does not allow.

Stock-Kupperman stated she will continue to investigate options that meet these needs and results will be presented at the next meeting.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE

Cherie Calvin will investigate a meeting date for June and inform the Committee.

VII. OTHER

Seleb thanked Rebecca Scott for agreeing to serve on the Committee and congratulated Melissa Gardner on her new position as Director of the Berkeley Public Library.

Seleb stated that Dawn Bussey will no longer serve on the Committee because she has accepted the position of Director at the Glen Ellyn Public Library, which is part of the DuPage Library System.

Seleb stated he will investigate the RASSL group to look for another volunteer to serve on the Committee.

Maxwell reported that Toby Greenwalt has been selected for Synergy and Amy Affelt is on the cover of OCLC magazine.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by,

Cherie Calvin,
Executive Secretary