

## **Director's Report**

### **July 2021**

#### **Meetings and Visits**

I continue to participate in the weekly system directors meetings hosted by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) staff.

The coordinators and I continue to meet weekly as a group.

I attended both the ILS and Technology Committee meetings.

I enjoyed several hours with our new Technology Solutions Architect orienting him to SCLS governance processes.

I spent the day in Wisconsin Rapids doing an annual visit, attending a Rotary meeting and checking out the venue for the northern Cornerstone event.

I participated in the SCLS Board committee meetings for finance, personnel and advocacy.

I participated in the quarterly SRLAAW (System & Resource Library Administrators' Association of Wisconsin) meeting by taking minutes.

#### **Foundation (SCLSF)**

The Foundation met July 22. The Cedar Grove Public Library joined the Foundation. SCLSF holdings now exceed \$4.695 million. The quarterly electronic newsletter will be sent out soon. Several volunteers will be distributing estate planning brochures to funeral homes and financial planners in the hopes of benefiting the foundation. The foundation purchased headsets for all member libraries, two PA systems, mini ipads and tripods for virtual programming for the baking/cooking kits. A Cricut kit will be purchased and the remaining funds will go into the SCLS Advantage account.

#### **Personnel**

Mark Ibach, SCLS Consulting Services Coordinator, has announced his retirement. His last day will be 12/31/2021. The coordinators have been meeting to formulate a staffing solution. As we begin this transition process, I am happy to announce that Tracie Miller, director at Wycocena Public Library, has accepted a two-year full-time Limited Term Employment (LTE) position as the SCLS Public Library Administration Consultant to take on the duties related to the annual report, adjacent county reimbursement, and providing general support to libraries and boards when questions arise related to Chapter 43. She will also be responsible for Top 5, Online Update & Trustee Update. She will continue to provide support for library digitization projects.

As announced via email, Francis Cherney, beloved SCLS trustee, died July 31. The Wood County clerk notified SCLS administration and will be seeking a new representative.

## **Public Library System Redesign (PLSR)**

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has contracted with Dr. Kenneth Kriz from the University of Illinois in Springfield to be a funding formula consultant. He will provide an analysis of the public library system funding formula to be delivered in the spring of 2022. If the funding formula process recommendation is to change the formula, DPI wanted to alert directors that some systems may see a decrease from 2023, but that their funding may be higher than it was in FY2021. DPI cannot promise or assume that there will be more state aid given in the next biennium. It makes sense that the two largest systems, Milwaukee County Federated Library System and SCLS will be the most negatively affected. SCLS has taken this projection seriously and used it in its preparation for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 budgets.

## **SCLS 2022-2024 Strategic Plan**

A survey was sent to all member libraries' staff on the performance of the current strategic plan. The Strategic Plan Work Group prepared a report reviewing the current plan and its analysis. The new plan for 2022-2024 has been reviewed by SCLS staff and members. The Strategic Plan Work Group will be discussing their work and approval is an action item this month.

## **Good News**

The new Rock Springs Library is open for business! They are located at 251 Railroad Street, above the flood plain.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Martha Van Pelt*

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