**National Library Service**

**Western Conference Meeting**

**Sunday, June 17, 2018**

**Meeting leader:** Sue Hammer-Schneider

**Recorder:** Sue Walker

**Present:**

**Alaska:** Freya Anderson

**Arizona:** Ron Bryant, Janet Fisher, Erin Pawlus

**California:**  Mike Marlin

**Colorado:** Debbi MacLeod

**Idaho:** Colleen Schowalter, Sue Walker

**Montana:**  Jackie Crepeau

**National Library Service:** Pam Davenport, regional consultant

**Nebraska:** Scott Scholz

**Nevada:** Hope Williams

**New Mexico:** John Mugford

**North Dakota:** Sue Hammer-Schneider

**Utah:** Lisa Nelson

**Washington:** Danielle Miller

**Wyoming:** Brenda Ariosto

Danielle brought Seattle chocolates in honor of Sue Sugimura, regional librarian from Hawaii, who recently passed away. Sue always brought delicious candies to the meetings. Pam Davenport will be in Hawaii this summer and will lay a lei on Sue’s grave from the group.

**Minutes:** Debbi moved and Danielle seconded that the minutes from the 2016 meeting be approved; the motion passed.

**Committee reports:**

**Reading Technology Advisory Group (RTAG):** Mike Marlin reported for Melissa: No plans for a face-to-face meeting. MOCA took up most of the focus.

**Collection Development Committee:** Sue Hammer-Schneider reported:

Met in D.C. Recommendations were distributed in Operations Alert 17-75

**Public Relations and Outreach:** Debbi MacLeodreported for Mary Jane Keyes: There have been no meetings since Jane retired from NLS. Debbi will replace Mary Jane on the committee once meetings resume.

**Regional Conference meetings:** As per the agreed schedule, Western and Southern conferences will meet jointly in 2019. Southern conference will host the meeting in San Antonio, TX, May 7-9, 2019 at the Drury Hotel. Room rates are good from May 5-9. Western conference will be responsible for the program. The planning committee will meet on Tuesday to plan. Committee members: Ava Smith, R.D. Hall, Craig Hayward, Pat Herndon, Sue Hammer-Schneider, John Mugford, Scott Scholz, Danielle Miller. Suggested themes for programs:

* Impact of the Marrakesh Treaty-Mike will help
* Patron centric/duplication on demand
* Recruiting and training specialized volunteers
* Reallocating staff to meet patron needs
* Preparing for braille ereaders
* Ideas for helping patrons engage in new services
* Repairing new players
* Addressing privacy issues of voice recognition-ask a representative from Alexa or Siri to speak

**Resolutions:**

1. The Western Conference thanks the National Library Service for making the Gutenberg duplication on demand system technology and hardware available and encourages NLS to continue to work with the ILS vendors in the process of implementing the system within network libraries.
2. The Western Conference encourages the National Library Service to research into how a system could be designed and implemented to accept digital signatures for applications.
3. The Western Conference encourages the National Library Service to increase the number of overdue MOCs allowed to 4 and give network librarians the ability to “excuse” patron overdues.
4. The Western Conference extends thanks to all the regions for the session contributions.
5. The Western Conference extends thanks to all the National Library Service staff and particularly Mary Beth Wise for a great conference.
6. The Western Conference encourages the National Library Service to stop having conference in hotels whose room rates exceed 10% over the federal government rate.
7. The Western Conference members recognize Sue Sugimura, Regional Librarian for the Hawaii Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for almost 37 years prior to her passing in March and extend condolences to family, friends, and associates.
8. The Western Conference asks that the National Library Service allow the removal of the write protection on the peach cartridges so that they may be used to the fullest degree by the Network libraries.
9. The Western Conference requests that the National Library Service reconsider providing supplies and materials to the Network libraries as NLS has greater purchasing power, possesses existing materials specifications, and hosts an existing internal ordering structure and process for libraries.
10. The Western Conference requests that if the National Library Service will not supply materials such as labels and mailing card sleeves, that NLS issue an Operations Alert one year in advance with notice of supply item discontinuation, item specifications, and contact information for known vendors.
11. The Western Conference urges NLS to hold its biennial national conference in the first several weeks of May as it did historically up until 2016. The 2018 Nashville conference, which we all greatly enjoyed and from which we learned a great deal, occurred over the Father's Day weekend and immediately preceding the 2018 Annual American Library Association conference in which many network library staff actively participate. We recognize that scheduling a major conference to achieve desirable dates requires negotiation as well as luck. We request that whenever possible, harkening back to precedent, NLS attempt to hold its national conference in May.