

MINUTES OF THE IOWA COUNTY LIBRARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

March 30, 1998

Purpose of the Committee: The purpose of the committee is to study local library service, the options, the needs and the funding.

The Iowa County Library Planning Committee met at the Barneveld Public Library on March 30, 1998 at 10 A.M.

Chairperson Valerie Foley called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M. Committee members present were Peggy Daentl, Victoria Kolb, Earlene O'Keefe, Barbara Polizzi, Diane Sterba, LaVerne Draves, Mary Lou Fry, Krista Ross, Valerie Foley, and Lois Menninga.

Valerie Foley asked for a motion for certification of an open meeting. Mary Lou Fry made the motion and Victoria Kolb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Valerie Foley requested a motion to approve the agenda. Mary Lou Fry made the motion and LaVerne Draves seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Valerie asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mary Lou made the motion and Lois seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Item #6. Outreach Services

Valerie Foley reported that Mary Lou Fry, Earlene O'Keefe, Barbara Polizzi, Lois Menninga, and herself attended an evening meeting on March 25th at the youth and ag. building in Lancaster which had been called by the Southwest Wisconsin Library System. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss two options for outreach services to member counties in the System. One option was to place deposit collections in designated places in these counties not served by libraries and the second option was the bookmobile. In January the planning committee requested that the 4 libraries in Iowa County get together and discuss how these libraries could help supply outreach services to rural members of the county. Valerie asked for a report on this third option. Barbara Polizzi was the spokesperson for this report. She stated that the four librarians met at the Dodgeville Library in February and decided to serve people who could not get to the libraries or homebound people. The librarians broke the county into service areas by school districts. Costs of outreach services would differ per library as far as selecting and reshelving library materials. The four libraries did agree that a person could be hired to deliver library materials to homebound people with payment of 31¢ a mile and approximately a work period of 10 hours a month. After studying Walter Burkhalter's figures for county outreach services at the March 25th meeting, Barbara Polizzi's cost estimate for Mineral Point Public Library came to \$1560. This would be for outreach services to rural people who were homebound. The committee librarians agreed to publicize the service. In further discussion Mary Lou Fry queried whether this option could address adequately the disparity of funding for library services between the municipalities and county funding. In the ensuing discussion some major points discussed were adding hours to the library's schedule to serve rural people. In some instances, it was believed that the addition of hours in smaller libraries might have a greater impact than in large libraries. In some cases additional hours might not guarantee it would reach rural patrons. Also the 4 librarians agreed that this third option for outreach services to rural homebound people would be limited at best and not one that could begin to match past bookmobile services. After much discussion about the options and cost of these options, Valerie asked for a summary of the options which was delivery of material for the homebound and possibly a division of county dollars for new library materials among the four county libraries. Lois Menninga inquired whether the money set aside by Iowa County for bookmobile services and given to SWLS could be used or given back for outreach services. LaVerne Draves addressed this by speculating that possibly it could be and asked that Mary Lou Fry, Valerie Foley, members of the Southwest Wisconsin Library System Board, become informed on this matter concerning SWLS policies on "outreach service funds" for Iowa County. Valerie distributed some papers which were handed out at the Lancaster meeting on costs of outreach services determined by the administrator of the Southwest Wisconsin Library System. While this was being done reading rooms were being discussed in terms of whether they could adequately serve as outreach service to communities that in the past had gotten bookmobile service. Viewed in a positive manner, some thought they (reading rooms) could serve as catalysts toward getting a library

developed and built in some communities.

LaVerne Draves stated he felt that the County Board of Supervisors should be addressed again about outreach services and possibly the new administrator ~~of~~ Walter could do it. Barbara said that if Walter addressed the County Board of Supervisors, it would be on the basis of state statutes which clearly state the county must provide county library services for its residents and contract with the System or another agency for them.

Chairperson Valerie Foley asked for a final recommendation from the 4 librarians as to what they could do as a third option for outreach services to county residents. Barbara Polizzi as spokesperson stated that after the 3 reading room sites were established and funded by county money, perhaps \$4,000 could be divided between the 4 public libraries at a \$1,000 for each library. This could be used for home bound services and new library materials. The libraries would have to contract with the county for those services but the 4 individual library boards would have to give each library permission to contract with the county for these services. In other words, official paper work would be needed to accept funding in this manner. Also the idea of reading room funding by the counties and proposed outreach services by the 4 existing county libraries would be tied together and presented to the counties as one package. Programs would go forward only if the reading rooms and outreach services by existing libraries were accepted and contracted in one package. If the county only wanted the existing libraries to do outreach services for them, then of course, the 4 libraries in the county would need the whole \$14,500 figure to divide and this might not be enough. Each library would decide how to offer and perform outreach services on the basis of being funded by the county. Each library would allocate county funding to specific percentages of outreach services on the basis of rural needs in their communities. These services would encompass their local school districts. Barbara Polizzi made a motion that the committee recommend county funding for 3 reading rooms and the remainder of funds allocated for county library services divided among the 4 libraries of Barneveld, Cobb, Dodgeville and Mineral Point. Mary Lou Fry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### Item #7. Committee Member Replacement

Valerie Foley reported that Caroline Hendrickson had moved from Iowa County and the committee had a vacancy to be filled. LaVerne and Valerie had spoken to a Pat Skogen from Ridgeway and felt she would consent to be on our committee to replace Caroline. A motion was made by LaVerne and seconded by Lois to propose Pat Skogen's name to the County Board as a new member. LaVerne reported he would officially be on the County Board until April 21st and felt by the end of May a new person would be appointed to replace him.

#### Item #8. Any Other Business Brought Before the Committee

Valerie reported elections or reelections for officers for next year would be on the next meeting agenda.

#### Item #9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on May 27th at 10:30 A.M. at the Dodgeville Public Library.

#### Item #10. Adjournment

Valerie asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. LaVerne Draves made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Victoria Kolb seconded the motion. The meeting ended at approximately 11:45 A.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Earlene O'Keefe.

Secretary,

Earlene M. O'Keefe

*Earlene M. O'Keefe*

SB 269 Counties reimbursing Communities  
System { (non-resident)  
Library }

July 1  
1998

See what community can provide.  
Outreach programs

M. Pt.  
4th Tues.  
of month.

check on  
book