

**Winnefox Library System  
Strategic Planning Committee Minutes  
Thursday 9 May 2013  
Berlin Public Library Meeting Room**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Jim Miller.

Present: Mark Arend, Kent Barnard, Karen Boehning, Jon Mark Bolthouse, Linda DeNell, Jeff Gilderson-Duwe, Andrea Klapper, Jerry Letcher, Jim Miller, Julie Stobbe, Cindy Wallace.

Absent: Chris Carroll, Vicki Lenz,

Jeff moved and Julie seconded approval of the April meeting minutes. Aye: Jeff, Andrea, Jim, & Julie. Abstained: Jerry & Jon Mark

Last week Mark sent out a link to information on the SRLAAW *Wisconsin Public Library Report and Proposed Service Standards* (<http://www.srlaaw.org/2013Process/process.asp>). This document has two parts: proposed changes to statute and proposed standards for library systems. At the meeting Mark passed out a report showing the draft standards highlighted showing how Winnefox was meeting these standards.

Linda DeNell arrived at 10:04  
Kent Barnard arrived at 10:06

Jeff reported on the process that led to this document. The information-gathering phase began with a survey of public libraries, followed by a series of webinars this winter, culminating in a meeting of library and system representatives in February. A subcommittee drafted the report which was released last week. Comments and suggestions will be collected between now and the end of June before a final draft is presented to SRLAAW in August. Library directors, trustees, and staff are encouraged to provide feedback either by using the online form or email link on the SRLAAW page or by talking to Jeff and Mark.

He pointed out that it sets a high bar and that no system in the state currently meets these standards. They force systems to cooperate, collaborate & consolidate and push them hard to meet member libraries' needs very well. He suggested the committee embrace the concept of standards and incorporate a statement in our plan that one goal is to meet the final standards.

Jim asked if there was anything in proposed legislation that would hamper our reaching the standards. Jeff said no; that the proposed legislation did not address the standards.

Jim asked will this get lost while going through committee process. Mark said probably not. There's enough commitment around state to get it approved by SRLAAW. The standards are voluntary and can be used by any system. Successful passage of the proposed changes to

statute are less certain, as sponsors would have to be found, legislation drafted and support marshaled in the legislature.

Jeff: Systems in other states ignored signs that funding would be eliminated. We are seeing some of these signs here. We need to pay attention to the writing on the wall so our libraries can make a better case for our value to legislators.

Jim: showing legislators that we're working together to improve services may help

Jerry: are some of these standards getting into micromanaging? General consensus that this may be the case.

Jon Mark: would standards be incorporated into legislation? Mark: no, they'd be voluntary, similar to the public library standards.

Jeff presented the draft goals and objectives. The consensus from the last meeting was that the boldface goals would be about the same as the previous plan and the specific points under each goal would change. Goals 2, 3, & 4 are the same Goal #1 has had a statement added that we will more actively seek collaboration and cooperation with other systems.

There was a general consensus to add a statement that Winnefox would seek to meet the system standards that come out of the SRLAAW process.

Mark asked if the proposed plan was ready for discussion by library directors. Consensus was not quite. We'll make a few changes at the next meeting and then present it.

The meeting adjourned at 10: 20

Next Meeting: Thursday 13 June

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Arend