

## **OWLS Director report**

November 19, 2020 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

### **ILS Migration and Bibliocommons Update**

We continue to work with library staff to identify and solve bugs, adjust settings to our needs, develop new workflows, and recreate our reports. The Bibliocommons discovery layer contract begins on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **OWLS and COVID-19**

Eleven of thirteen OWLS staff continue to work from home in accordance with CDC guidelines that recommend remote work whenever possible. Sorting continues in APL's meeting rooms.

### **Libraries and COVID-19**

Library service levels are under the control of local library boards, so service levels vary based on local conditions. OWLS member library report service levels as follows:

- Closed: 0 libraries
- Curbside only: 12 libraries (APL, BCL, CPL, FPL, HPL, KAU, KIM-LIT, MAN, NLP, SCA, SEY, WEY)
- Open doors; limited service, restricted access: 1 library (WAU)
- Browsing/lingering permitted with greater access: 3 libraries (IVL, MAR, SHI)
- Fully restored: 0 libraries

### **County Budgets**

Both Outagamie and Waupaca Counties passed their 2021 budgets with library aids as requested.

### **OWLS Board Appointments and Vacancy**

Brian Looker, Bobbie Buchholtz, Paul Girod, Marcia Trentlage, Patricia Craig, and Marilyn Herman have been appointed or reappointed to the OWLS Board. David Hovde will not seek reappointment after his term ends on December 31, 2020. I am seeking a candidate from Outagamie County. The communities of Little Chute and Shiocton are currently unrepresented on the OWLS Board.

**PLSR** DPI has updated the [PLSR web page](#) with current implementation priorities and timeline.

### **Youth Services Liaison Agreement**

We had planned to sign a Youth Services Liaison Agreement with the Clintonville Public Library for 2021, but CPL Children's Librarian Katherine Freund has accepted the director position at the new Little Chute library. Katherine would still like to serve as our youth services liaison, and will propose that to her board at their December meeting. If the Little Chute Board agrees, we can approve that contract at our January meeting.

### **Virtual Library Legislative Day**

WLA is planning a virtual Library Legislative Day for February 16-18, 2021. I will share details as they become available. I hope many of you will participate.

## **Continuing Education Scholarships Report**

OWLS awarded four CE Scholarships in 2020:

- \$937.50 for Jamie Hein and the Clintonville Public Library's planning team to participate in the WiLS strategic planning cohort.
- \$65 for Allie Krause from the Hortonville Public Library to attend the virtual Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) conference.
- \$65 for Elizabeth Timmins from the Muehl Public Library to attend the virtual Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) conference.
- \$350 for Sue Abrahamson from the Waupaca Area Public Library at attend the virtual Harwood Public Innovators Lab.

Just over \$2000 remains unspent in the scholarships budget line. I believe the low participation this year can be attributed to the pandemic.

## **Facility**

The City of Appleton's 2021 budget includes \$2.4 million for architectural design work toward a renovated or reconstructed library facility on the current site. The budget also identifies \$12 million each in 2022 and 2023 for the construction of the facility.