JOINT LSTA ADVISORY COUNCIL AND LNRB MEETING  
Talking Book and Braille Center, Trenton, NJ  
December 4, 2014

Present (LSTA): Susan Kaplan, Chair; Ralph Bingham, Sue Lazzari, Pam Price, Amy Babcock Landry, Seth Stephens, Wendy Whipple, Jerry Holtz

Present (LNRB): Steve Chudnick, Robert White, Roberta Fitzpatrick, Carol Boutilier, Patricia Massey, Laverne Mann

Absent (LSTA): Brett Bonfield, Susan Heinis, Valerie Tucci, Mark Thompson

Absent (LNRB): Karen George, Patricia Whitehead

Guests: Cheryl O’Connor, LLNJ and Pat Tumulty, NJLA

NJSL Staff: Mary Chute, Kathleen Peiffer, Sheri Shafer, Bob Keith, Victoria Rosch

Reporting: Diana Delgross

Kathleen Peiffer called meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Minutes of July 23, 2014 LSTA Advisory Council were approved

LibraryLinkNJ’s Cheryl O’Connor reporting update: Membership meeting on Tuesday (12/2/14) highlights services for the last 6 months beginning with Continuing Education (CE) opportunities. Joanne Roukens and Sophie Brookover opened registration for three TechFest programs and have 30 space filled to date, 5 remaining for January in Parsippany. NJ Makers Day (March 21, 2015) have 67 registered sites in 20 counties. Linked to the Strategic Plan goals demonstrating a talented network. Makerspace Bus tours, southern part of the state covered in the fall of 2014 and the northern sections will be targeted in 2015. Social Media team reports there are 1,525 Twitter followers; 698 on Facebook; 671 on Tumblr and 157 on Instagram. Monthly staff activity is listed on the LLNJ e-update report.

Review of the statewide network statistics- Bob Keith.
Rutgers and Newark both flat. Signed $184,000.00 contract for statewide reference. $82,500.00 depending on activity. Victoria Rosch and Bob Keith site visit to Rutgers LL department, where shown how Rutgers fulfills requests and met with staff. Newark site visit is planned so they NJSL can touch base with them. Roberta Fitzpatrick extended an invitation to both Victoria and Bob to visit Smith Library, part of Rutgers. Bob explained the current ILL transactions at Rutgers and other details referring to Newark’s reference transaction, Statewide Database Usage and contracts. Susan Kaplan asked Bob about the trends dipping in 2014 for Rutgers. Bob took the factors into consideration as per Melissa Just who stated there will be ups and downs due to the merger. Currently there is an internal re-working and slowdowns to adjust to being merged. Rutgers is still able to fulfill 80% of requests even after the merger – this is based on good organizational skills in place to allow for requests to be fulfilled. Roberta asked about Rutgers stats including document information in the count. Requested Bob to now include document fulfillment – Docline System as is done at Robert Wood Johnson, keep as a separate line item. Bob explained amounts per transactions. Resorted 16,600 based on actual activity. $8.00 per request, base grant and transaction up to a cap. Unsure of how formula was derived for arriving at the financial
figures with ILL but money is a pittance compared to cost of annuals, subscriptions, resources and Rutgers does have a specialized collection. Bob to review RFKs based on some concern regarding Smith Library.

Budget Information – Sheri Shafer
Sheri reviewed the LSTA GY 2014 budget that’s on a 2 year cycle ($4,023,991.00). We continued trend to spend the grant on state wide services. We started using the budget in February FY14, bulk to be used in FY15 (goes to grant ends in September 2015). Award was dropped by ½ a million $500k since GY10, which was $4.6 million; was awarded in October 1, award letter due in January for 4.6 million. GY 2013 budget grant ($3,869,793.00). Just finished ended this in September. Spending was very similar to budget spending, is close to budget. Some discussion on how many Jersey Connect staff were paid with Federal funds; currently paying two people, with the third now paid with state funds. Prior years had all three JerseyConnect staff paid with LSTA funds. FY15 Statewide Projects – on target for spending for the year. Fiscal 2015 appropriation ($4,299,000.00) has been a stable flat amount since 2011. Total fiscal 2015 revenues ($4,709,500.00) flat, includes the use of Network carry forward. FY15 Network Funding, e-rate assistance likely to go up from $50,000.00. Marketing and Law Services paid for by carry forward. Some discussion of statewide projects spreadsheet which includes both Federal and State funds.

NJSL Update – Mary Chute
Here are some of the highlights from an active year beginning with the summer reading program in the Lifelong Learning group. There was a 6.5% increase in the number of books read by all ages and a 19% increase in total participation in Summer Reading programs from 2013. Lego Toolkits went to Trenton PL, Mercer County Lawrenceville branch, Hamilton PL, Newark, Jersey City, Paterson, Elizabeth, Ferry Avenue, Toms River branch, Clifton, Passaic, Union City, Bayonne, East Orange and Vineland. Contract with Evanced Solutions has been terminated due to the small number of libraries taking advantage of this resource. Some libraries have expressed an interest in acquiring this resource just for their libraries, they are looking into it but the costs are high. Mental Health First Aid grant awarded of $15,000.00 from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. 100 seats for library staff, 43 librarians are now certified, two more sessions to be held in 2015. There is a possibility of a Youth First Aid in the spring of 2015. From Library Support Services, New Directors’ Orientation Training will be held on Wednesday, February 18 and February 25, 2015 at NJSL and counts towards the required minimum amount of library-related training for Per Capita State Aid. Experienced Directors Forum is being planned with NJSL, LLNJ and NJLA for the fall of 2015. New Jersey Cultural Alliance for Response (NJCAR) as part of the IMLS Connection to Collections grant to be used to form an Alliance for Response among state cultural institutions. Plans include a summit, workshops and recovery training. Talking Book and Braille Center, the BARD system for uploading locally produced books to the Library of Congress’ national database is ongoing and can be accessed on iPhones and iPads. Innovation and Outreach continues with the Career Online High School program which launched on October 6 as part of a Department of Labor Innovations grant. To date there have been 25 scholarships awarded out of the 125 that are available. The pilot program is currently available at Camden County, Elizabeth, Long Branch, Scotch Plains, Somerset and Trenton libraries and each student has 18 months to complete the diploma program once they are awarded a scholarship. Snapshot Day as a collaborative project, NJSL and NJLA led efforts to help public libraries collect statistics, photos, videos and quotes from their patrons. October 17 was NJSL’s day to participate and was a success in gathering stats on everyone who came in that day.

Progress on LSTA five-year plan – Kathi Peiffer
Kathi handed out a report of activity areas listed in New Jersey’s 2013-2017 LSTA Plan. The activity areas include: Statewide database licensing, TBBC, Statewide Digitization and Preservation Initiatives,
Statewide literacy Support Initiatives, Virtual Catalog, Statewide Technology Support and Staff Development. See attachment for details.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Other Business – None

Next meeting date –

Kathi will do a doodle poll for the next meeting staying within the preferred parameters of Wednesday or Thursday afternoons at the Talking book and Braille Center if the meeting room is available.

Meeting adjourned 2:30 pm. Break out meetings for LSTA and LNRB separately began at 2:35 pm.

New Jersey Library Network Review Board Meeting
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December 4, 2014

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Absent: Karen George, Patricia Whitehead

NJSL Staff: Mary Chute, Bob Keith, Victoria Rosch

Reporting: Diana Delgross

Steve Chudnick called meeting to order at 2:35 pm and established that there was a quorum.

Victoria distributed certificates in recognition of board members whose terms are completed; those members are: Karen George, Patricia Massey, Robert White and Patricia Whitehead.

After the certificates were distributed, new members who will be serving from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016 were discussed and named as: Fran King from Lincoln Middle School and Anne Wodnick from Gloucester County Library appointed by LLNJ; Joan Hipp from Florham Park Public Library and Daragh O’Connor from River Edge Public Library appointed by NJSL.

Minutes from last meeting in January 22, 2014 were formally approved.

Communications – Pat Whitehead has officially retired and wishes everyone good luck. Karen George contacted the committee to say she was unable to attend the meeting.

Unfinished or old business –Contracts discussion for state wide contracts - Victoria suggested to review the contracts now rather than wait till later. The contracts for Newark and Rutgers will be sent to committee members so that they may review the wording. NJSL staff will review wording for inclusion of
DOCLINE statistics in the contract. Communication will be through email unless a conference call is needed in order to review these items as a group and to address all concerns.

New business:
Rochelle Park School District is planning to use 1/3 of the current school library for a computer lab, state approval is needed for this to go ahead. Edison High School Library most of the books have been removed from the library and plans are in place to install 300 computers.

There was a discussion regarding flat funding and methods to increase funding. Mary Chute explained that she, Kathi Peiffer and Peggy Cadigan have visited legislators, often in tandem with representative from NJLA and local librarians. The purpose of these visits is to inform legislators about the need for more funding for the Network. Efforts are made every year to highlight and publicize the need for increased funding, and to showcase the fine work local libraries are doing. These efforts will continue. While additional funding is not available, there is no news or discussions about further cuts and cuts have not been on the table since FY11.

Adjournment – 3:00pm

Follow-up:
The contracts for Newark and Rutgers were sent to committee members for review on 12.18.14. NJSL staff reviewed Rutgers wording regarding inclusion of photocopies. Photocopies are included in the contract. (Note: DOCLINE statistics will be included in future meeting handouts.) Communication will be through email unless a conference call is desirable as determined by the president.