

**Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting  
January 13, 2011  
Minutes**

Committee members, partners & others attending: Janell Brown, Jim Buchman, Wendy Clark, Nolan Crabb, Tracy Grimm, Irwin Hott, Mickey Prahin, Vicky Prahin, George Pyle, Will Reed, Claire Williams

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

The meeting was held at the State Library of Ohio. A conference phone was also used for those unable to travel to the State Library. The meeting was called to order at 10:35A.M. by Jim Buchman. Each attendee introduced him or herself.

**STATE LIBRARY REPORT:**

*Digital Transition:* Jim reported that the State Library is still plugging away at sending out over 10,000 machines by spring 2011. The State Library has currently sent out 8,033 standard and 2,021 advanced machines, totaling 10,054. Jim reported that it is becoming hard to find those who want a digital player. The State Library is currently receiving 1,000 new players every two weeks. Soon, that number will be cut back to 500. Jim reported that it is getting closer to the point where Sub-Lending agencies will be able to distribute the digital players themselves to their patrons. Jim reported that less than 1% of the digital players need repaired. Most of the repairs needed have to do with battery issues and connections to speakers.

*Assistance to Cincinnati Regional:* Jim reported that the Cincinnati Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped still has 10,000 cassette books to dispose of, 3,000 of those are master cassettes. Before those cassette books can be disposed of they will need to be offered up to other libraries. State Library staff will manually key in all master titles to create a list for libraries. Once the list has been created, libraries will have 90 days to respond and claim cassettes. After the 90 day waiting period, all unclaimed cassettes will go to disposal. Jim also reported that the Cincinnati Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped had a very large Braille collection. NLS was unable to find any library in the United States interested in housing the collection. That collection will now be transferred to a library overseas.

*READ Poster:* The State Library has been working on the next READ poster which will feature two members of the Ohio School for the Blind marching band. The poster will include the two members of the band in front of an official photo from the Rose Bowl parade from January 2010. The initial response from the library community has been very positive and all public libraries in Ohio will

receive a copy of the poster. Jim believes the posters are coming out at a good time to help represent youth for the NLS 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **REGIONAL LBPH REPORT/UPDATE:**

*Digital Books & New Book Development:* Will Reed reported that the digital talking book collection has grown steadily since its launch in September 2009 to nearly 60,000 copies and 4,500 titles. The OLBDP has also asked the State Library for money to add Playaway's, CD's, and recordings of books of a local nature to the collection.

*Media Kit:* Will reported that the OLBDP is currently working with the State Library on a media kit to promote the program.

*80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:* Will reported that on March 3, 2011, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)—the Library of Congress' talking-book and Braille program—will celebrate 80 years of helping visually impaired and physically handicapped individuals enjoy reading their favorite books and magazines.

*Ohio BARD:* The BARD program had a record breaking December 2010 with 7,300 downloads. There are currently 1,300 patrons registered with the program. Fewer than 500 patrons are doing the bulk of the downloading. Will reported that these numbers are consistent with the national trend of 10 – 15% of membership.

*NLS Standards Committee:* Will announced that he is on the advisory team of the NLS Standards Committee. The first draft of standards has been completed and is open for comments and suggestions:

<http://www.tapinformation.com/ASCLANLS.htm>

Suggestions or comments can be e-mailed to Will Reed at [will.reed@cpl.org](mailto:will.reed@cpl.org)

## **PARTNER & AGENCY REPORTS/UPDATES:**

*Ohio School for the Blind:* Janell Brown announced that Jim Buchman has agreed to come to the school's May 19, 2011 spring concert recital. Jim will be providing demonstrations of the new digital player and distributing information about the Talking Book program. Janell also announced that the Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band will be participating in the March 17, 2011 Columbus Saint Patrick's Day parade.

*Cincinnati Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired:* Wendy Clark announced that May 4, 2011 is CABVI Day on Fountain Square in downtown Cincinnati to celebrate its centennial. The Clark Montessori Steel Band and the

Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band will perform. For more information please see their web site at [www.cincyblind.org](http://www.cincyblind.org)

*Philomatheon Society:* Claire Williams reported that the October vision fair in October 2010 was a huge success. They are planning another reception next October 2011 at a Canton Christian home.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting for the Consumer Advisory Committee is scheduled for March 24, 2011 at the State Library of Ohio beginning at 10:30am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:53A.M.

Minutes submitted by Tracy Grimm