

Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting
June 21, 2010
MINUTES

Committee members, partners & others attending: Janell Brown, Jim Buchman, Beverly Cain, Nolan Crabb, Tracy Grimm, Dreama Hughes, Mickey Prahin, George Pyle, Will Reed, Sandy Turner, Claire Williams

INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was held at the State Library of Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M. by Jim Buchman. Each attendee introduced him or herself.

NEW BUSINESS/STATE LIBRARY REPORT:

New State Librarian: Beverly Cain is the new State Librarian of Ohio replacing Jo Budler as of June 1, 2010. Jo Budler has taken the position of State Librarian of Kansas. Beverly is the former director of the Portsmouth Public Library, and former President of the Ohio Library Council. She has been active in Ohio public libraries for 24 years.

Digital Transition: Transition started in September/October 2009 and is currently going very well. Ohio is receiving and distributing 500 digital players every two weeks. Early numbers from NLS had Ohio ranked 11th in the country with percentage of received machines distributed (93%) and 5th in the country with number of machines distributed. Distribution of players continues solely from the State Library. Sub-lending Agencies will receive players for distribution once everyone in the program has one. Distribution should be completed by February/March 2011.

Digital Talking Book Information Sessions: Jim Buchman made an offer to Sub-Lending Agencies that he was available to do information sessions open to the public. The focus of the sessions would be on the new digital players and books and downloading through BARD. Jim has already booked a number of sessions from July to October 2010.

Supply of Cassette Machines: Jim reported that we continue to have a shortage of cassette (C1) players. They are not holding up as long in the field and we have not received any new players in three years. The repair groups continue to do a great job and our current supply is meeting demand. Current NLS timeline calls for cassette players to begin being phased out in 2011 with the supply being depleted in 2 – 3years.

REGIONAL LBPH REPORT:

New Book Production: OLBDP recently received a grant to supplement the digital resources collection. OLBDP has approximately 2,000 digital book titles and almost 25,000 copies available since the digital player began being distributed.

Ohio BARD: OLBDP assumed BARD (Braille and Audio Recordings Download) responsibilities from NLS in April 2010. OLBDP wants patrons to know that the service that they were using through NLS-BARD is the same as OHIO-BARD. The internet address for OHIO-BARD is <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/oh>. Patrons can register through the website for service and will be sent instructions on how to use.

Patron Surveys: OLBDP recently sent out patron satisfaction surveys to patrons. This was done in part because of all the changes the program has been through in the last year.

Family Fun Day 2010: The OLBDP Family Fun & Learning Day will be Wednesday, September 15, 2010 from 10:00A.M. To 3:00P.M. The event is open to all OLBDP patrons, their family and friends. This year the annual event will center on service orientation, providing hands-on demonstrations of talking book machines, digital cartridges, and the OHIO-BARD download service. Jim Buchman will also be attending to demonstrate the new digital players and answer any questions about the latest technology.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Jim Buchman reported that the Talking Book form for individuals applying for service has been updated.

Several members suggested holding a Digital Talking Book Information Session at the State Library. It was discussed how the State Library would be a central location for many Ohioans.

Jim Buchman wanted everyone to know that the State Library is still taking requests for new machines. People do not have to wait to be sent a new digital player; they may call and request one also.

Beverly Cain joined the meeting at the end. Beverly started as the new State Librarian on June 1st. She introduced herself and expressed her full support of the Talking Book program.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00P.M.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at the State Library of Ohio.

Minutes submitted by Tracy Grimm