



**VERMONT BOARD OF LIBRARIES
MINUTES OF MEETING**

July 15, 2014

10:00 a.m. – noon

Norwich Public Library
Norwich, VT

Members present: Bruce Post, Chair; Josh Fitzhugh; Martha Reid, State Librarian; Deborah Granquist; Lucy Comstock-Gay (left meeting at 11:32) and Anne Lezak (via phone with a poor connection and present for only part of the meeting). **Also present:** Brittney Wilson, Department of Libraries; Lucinda Walker, Director, Norwich Public Library (joined the meeting at 11:45); Virgil Fuller, Vice President, Vermont Library Association; Sally Anderson, Executive Director, Vermont Center for the Book (joined the meeting at 10:45)

Call to Order: Chair Bruce Post called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Additions/Changes to Agenda: Post moved the Open Meeting Law agenda item to be the first action item and moved the Geographic Naming agenda item to follow.

Minutes: May 14, 2014 meeting minutes were approved with one correction (typographical error).

Open Meeting Law: Reid reported that the Department of Libraries will hold a webinar on July 21 for librarians and Library Trustees to review updates and changes to the Vermont Open Meeting Law. The Law only pertains to municipal libraries but in order for incorporated libraries to meet State Minimum Standards they also must meet requirements of the Open Meeting Law. Reid asked the Board for advice about the possibility of making available to incorporated libraries a waiver regarding the Open Meeting Law amendments for FY2014 Standards Applications. This would allow time for incorporated libraries to put procedures in place to meet the requirements in FY2015. The Board voiced support for Reid's idea to provide the exception for one year to incorporated libraries; no vote was taken on this issue.* Comstock-Gay suggested that the Department offer a sample template for libraries to use when writing minutes; this was an idea that met with general approval.

*Note: Following the 7/15 Board of Libraries meeting, and after consultation with Department staff, Reid made the decision NOT to make the waiver available to libraries.

Incorporated libraries will be required to meet the same standard as do municipal libraries.

Vision Committee Update: Lezak reported that the Committee will meet again before the October Board meeting.

Geographic Naming: Reid presented two draft documents from the Geographic Naming Committee: 1) Principles and Policy and (2) Procedures for Geographic Naming. Board members offered suggestions for improvement/correction and the documents were sent back to the Committee for further work. A final draft of both documents will be presented to the Board at their October meeting.

Sally Anderson provided a brief overview of the Vermont Center for the Book (VCB) and talked about the long history of partnership between VCB and the Department of Libraries (VTLIB). In 2010 VCB and VTLIB established the Vermont Early Literacy Initiative (VELI) which provides books, hands-on materials, and training to public librarians. 53 libraries now participate in the program and have attended trainings in preschool literacy and mathematics. VELI is supported by grants from the Winnie Belle Learned Fund (Vermont Public Library Foundation), the Henderson Foundation, the State of Vermont and the Turrell Fund. Goals for VELI moving forward include increased networking and strengthened partnerships with statewide initiatives (e.g. Race to the Top for Early Childhood, Let's Grow Kids).

Overview of Norwich Public Library: Lucinda Walker reported that her library is a VELI member and they work with two local childcare providers. She also announced that Norwich will join with ten other libraries in the Upper Valley to form a "shared borrower" system which eliminates out-of-town borrower fees for patrons who live in these communities. Norwich is one of 17 "preview" libraries that will participate in the Edge Initiative on library technology planning this fall.

Reid talked briefly about the E21 Conference that VTLIB and SparkFun are hosting on July 31 – August 2 at Champlain College. The conference is focused on technology, makerspaces, inventing, learning, creating and inspiring.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m

Next meeting: October 14, 10:00 a.m. – noon
Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston



Respectfully submitted,
Martha Reid,
State Librarian, and Secretary, Board of Libraries