

County SIG Meeting
Deer Creek State Park
April 17, 2014

11:00 a.m. Melinda Worthen called the meeting to order.

Due to the absence of the vice chair, Susan McGrew agreed to record the minutes.

The following persons attended the meeting: Chairperson Melinda Worthen, Bridget Early, Juanita Henniger, Ardis Stein, Susan McGrew, Joanne Beal, Kathy Moreland, George Baker, Kathy Dugan, Dorrie Cramer-Rumple, Angela Baldree, Monica Overly, Mary Jenkins, Judy Maxwell, Judy Maxwell's intern Alison Humphreys, and Judge Schneider.

11:05 a.m. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Judge Schneider started the meeting with a legislative update. John Leutz of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio had previously stated that there is possible legislation that will allow county law libraries to accept credit cards.

A Wayne County Commissioner and WCLLRB member requested legislation that stated that during the month of January, any CLLRB may transfer any amount of unencumbered funds to the General Fund. There was concern that the WCLLRB may be stacked to gut the funding for the CLLRB. Victor Hipsley, the lobbyist hired during the previous major legislative changes for libraries, was contacted. He spoke with the Chair of the Finance Committee, who happens to be from Wayne County and was chair during the last major legislative change to Law Libraries. Victor reported that the chair does not want to touch any issues regarding CLLRB funding. It was noted that the Wayne County Commissioner was acting on his own and not representing the WCLLRB. The issue will not be picked up again until after Easter.

Judge Schneider suggested that representatives from CLLRB's reach out the CCAO and on an annual basis to let them know what libraries have accomplished and ask for input.

11:10 a.m. CONSORTIUM Update

Judy Maxwell said she would be available for questions regarding the 3/26 training held in Delaware County. County Law Librarians who did not attend will be receiving a flash drive with the handouts that were presented at the meeting.

11:15 a.m. LIBGUIDES PILOT PROJECT

Mary Jenkins started LibGuides at the Hamilton County Law Library through a grant from the Consortium. Ms. Jenkins has an Academic Library background and this tool is used quite a bit in the academic setting.

Once the grant was approved, Jenkins contacted Mark Estes, editor of the AALL Spectrum magazine for input regarding LibGuides. A company called Springshare has created the template for the guides. Pricing for a county law library was a bit

unusual since they usually come up with a figure based on number of employees or number of library subscribers. As neither of those seemed like an appropriate pricing model for CLLRB's, the company decided on \$799/yr for the first two years.

The basic idea of LibGuides is to put research guides online for the general public. Jenkins anticipates expanding to eventually gear some towards lawyers as well.

With the grant and help from a library science school intern, 6 initial guides were created: Landlord/Tenant, Appeals, Child Custody, Consumer Law, Child Support, Divorce and Foreclosures. There is also a Welcome guide with an explanation of how to use the guide.

Jenkins demonstrated the guides at the meeting. They are housed at <http://libguides.hamilton-co.org/> Each guide contains a description, disclaimer, resources in the library and links to relevant ORC codes. They started creating the guides using the LibGuide template in early winter. Jenkins can tell they are getting used based on web statistics, but has not surveyed anyone yet to determine their usefulness. The Academic libraries are interested in sharing, as these are more practice oriented than the ones they create. Any subscriber to LibGuides may ask another library to share their LibGuide and let them modify it to the hosting library. It is very customizable. Jenkins increases awareness of these guides via Twitter, Facebook and the newsletter. The uniform style of the guide helps to brand the library. Kathy Dugan asked if the Consortium intended to pick up the cost of the subscription to LibGuide. Jenkins suggested that if multiple libraries express an interest, it is possible the Consortium would consider it.

Mary Jenkins congratulated Angela Baldree on the new website for the Columbus Law Library.

11:40 CONSORTIUM MEETING UPDATE

Joanne Beal asked for a summary of the Consortium Board meeting. They discussed:

the authoritative pecking order of the LLRB's and County Commissioners; Wood County and Bowling Green Municipal Court's decision to cap all fines to the library; and Judge Schneider explained the existing procedure for special funds to be declared "surplus funds" which basically entails having the State Auditor approve a resolution from the Commissioners and the money goes to the General Fund.

11:55 ADJOURN FOR LUNCH

1:00 SPEAKER DAVE TAYLOR, MANAGING ATTORNEY - CHILLICOTHE SOUTHEASTERN OHIO LEGAL SERVICES

Dave Taylor discussed the role of Legal Aid. Legal Aid is a private non-profit association. Six or seven cover all of Ohio. Ten years ago, there were 17 associations. Southeastern Ohio Legal Services covers 30 counties. Their funding is dependent on interest rates.

Each Legal Aid Office develops its own priorities. The required poverty level for assistance also varies by office. Special funds allow them to represent senior citizens regardless of income and handle foreclosure matters for clients at 250% the poverty

level. Eligibility for services depends on the type of problem. Most requests for help are regarding domestic relations. There are special funds for domestic violence matters. Each office focuses on where they can do the most good with limited resources. There has been funding for legal advice clinics that many offices have been hosting. Taylor's office has been using special funds to create Access to Justice (A2J) forms for the most common requests. There is a divorce interview which generates a tax return. The program can generate basic pleadings and is a good starting point for anyone in Ohio. It can be accessed at <http://seols.org/chillicothe/>.

2:00 COUNTY LAW LIBRARY SURVEY

Mary Jenkins and Ardis Stein highlighted the results of the County Law library Survey. The results are available at http://cocll.ohio.gov/Portals/0/surveys/2013%20CLL%20survey%20results_%20final.pdf. Some of the highlights are:

- about ½ of Ohio counties have a staffed Law Library
- revenue is slightly down overall on average
- 60% of respondents do not think they are receiving all the money as designated by the ORC
- Mary Jenkins noted that the CLLRB is obligated to ask for support from the General Fund every year.
- Some counties were not happy with support received from other offices. A future survey should look into the reasons for this dissatisfaction.
- Group purchasing has not been shown to be effective.

3:00 LISTSERV LIVE

Melinda Worthen opened the floor for comments, much as we do on the listserv. Juanita Henniger discussed having a membership drive. Judy Maxwell said the Consortium could fund ORALL Memberships with grant money if it is requested. Mary Jenkins observed that connectedness to other librarians is very important. She will work with the membership committee on updated the contact list for CLLRB chairs and persons in charge of the law library.

Angela Baldree reported that the Consortium is working on having Interlibrary Loan requests done through the website rather than through the listserv.

Dorrie Cramer Rumble asked if anyone had tried techsoup.org for software or equipment for the library. Kathy Dugan reported that she had signed up for it and found that the library did not qualify for most of the Microsoft products.

Many librarians asked when the Consortium Grants would be awarded. Judy Maxwell said that it should hopefully be by the end of the month.

3:30 ADJOURN

With no further business, Melinda Worthen adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McGrew