

**Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting  
March 19, 2013  
Minutes**

Committee members, partners & others attending: Janell Brown, Jo Ferguson, Tracy Grimm, Irwin Hott, David Namiotka, Mickey Prahin, Vicky Prahin, Will Reed, Sandy Turner, Claire Williams

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

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

**STATE LIBRARY REPORT:**

*Batteries for Digital Machines:* Replacement batteries for the digital machines are now available through Multi-State East. State Library staff will be able to replace batteries from standard & advanced machines that are dead. The majority of machines with battery issues will continue to be sent to the GE volunteers for repair. Many of the new machines that were ordered from Multi-State West arrived with no battery life.

*Digital Player Return Service Request Form:* Tracy is currently working on a Digital Player Return Service Request Form to distribute with new machines to patrons. Many patrons return machines when they are broken who automatically think a new one will be sent. Most of the machines that are returned have no note on them indicating what action needs to be taken. The form gives a list of options for the patron to check for specific malfunction. Also provided is the State Library number for patrons to call to request another machine to simplify the process. The form can be returned with the player. The idea came from a form staff received back with a player from the Oregon Talking Book Program. Members of the committee suggested making the form in Braille also.

*Digital Headphones:* Headphones continue to be sent out as the demand is still high. Will placed the announcement in the OLBDP newsletter & patrons have been calling nonstop. There is a large supply of headphones available for patrons, no waiting list required.

*Board Appointments:* Tracy announced that all five board appointments for the CAC committee were approved by the State Library Board in October. The appointments are Janell Brown, Mickey Prahin, Stephanie Claytor, Sandy Turner, and Heather Youngman from Norwalk Public Library (new member). All members will serve three year terms ending in October 2015.

*NLS Report:* The State Library has just received the official NLS consultant report from network consultant MaryBeth Wise. Listed were four recommendations for the State Library which are either in the process of completing or have already been done. One of the recommendations is to continue to host an annual training for sublending agencies. The NLS consultant visit takes place every two years in September. MaryBeth visits the State Library and also the OLBPD library. The next visit is scheduled for September 2014.

*Sublending Agency Training:* Training is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5 at the State Library. Tracy and Will will be meeting after the meeting today to finalize the agenda. Registration information will be sent to sublending agencies by Friday, March 22. They will also be meeting with State Library Consultant for Technology, Mandy Knapp today to discuss her presentation at the training. Mandy trains and advises other librarians on issues like eBooks, eReaders, eRate and other things that start with "e". She is a former Adult Service Librarian with hands-on experience in programming, technology, and public service and a committed advocate for library services. Her specialties include eReaders, library ebook products, library advocacy, reader's advisory, emerging technologies.

*Columbus Family Fun & Learning Day:* The Columbus event is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. Tracy is currently looking for vendors who would like to have a booth here for the day.

### **OLBPD Report:**

*NLS Patron Survey:* NLS currently has a live patron survey for users at [www.libraryofcongresssurvey.com](http://www.libraryofcongresssurvey.com) or 1-866-545-1618. Patrons can call to schedule a time to take the survey through May 15, 2013. NLS hopes to use the survey to understand the needs the patrons on the program.

*Magazines on Cartridge:* Will announced that magazines on digital cartridges are starting to become available in Ohio. Some patrons will have both cassette and digital until the complete switch to digital takes place. OLBPD is trying to get the word out to patrons that they must return cartridges to receive new magazines. Will announced that there will be some leniency with returning cartridges until the message is clear to all patrons.

*Unified English Braille:* Will reported no official work from NLS on the new standards for Braille in regards to the program. NLS is hosting a Braille Summit in Boston, Massachusetts in June to discuss changes and Will will be attending. Will encouraged members to visit the Braille Authority of America website for more information <http://www.brailleauthority.org/>. Members of the committee would like to encourage schools and libraries to promote Braille to users instead of large print and encourage parents to learn Braille to support their children.

*OLBPD Staff:* Will announced that OLBPD has hired Ken Redd as a library assistant to work with promotion and outreach. Ken will be training libraries on outreach and trying to build a meaningful contact list with libraries

*Media Additions to Collection:* OLBDP has added more DVD's and Playaways to the collection. Will is hoping to further develop this collection by adding more Blu-Rays and descriptive videos. The FCC now has more movies containing description, especially Disney. Videos with description no longer have to be ordered through a special vendor, there is a much better discount through Baker & Taylor.

*Reading Club:* OLBDP is finally moving forward with children and adult reading clubs. OLBDP Kids and OLBDP Teens are two clubs planning to begin in the fall with the start of the school year. Members will receive an identification card member certificate in Braille when they sign up. There will be different levels of rewards for reading, bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Prizes will be given for each level including stickers, movie passes, book bags, etc. Will would like to also have an internet web presence for kids, teachers, and librarians.

*Strap for Digital Player:* OLBDP has ordered adjustable shoulder straps to be used with the digital talking book machines. The strap resembles a purse strap with lobster clips at each end. It will be demonstrated during the next several months and OLBDP will encourage feedback from patrons.

*Choose to Read Ohio:* Will thanked Sandy Turner for all of her help with adding titles from Choose to Read Ohio to the collection. Will has submitted produced titles to NLS quality control. OLBDP will be able to at the very least make these titles available to readers in Ohio.

Next meeting is scheduled at the State Library of Ohio on July 25, 2013 at 10:30am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:42am.

Minutes submitted by Tracy Grimm