

## Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries

Nebraska Library Commission  
1200 N Street, Lincoln, NE  
Friday, November 20, 2015 10:00 AM – 1:45 PM

### MINUTES

State Advisory Council members present in Lincoln: Beth Kabes (Chair), Francine Canfield, John Dale, Denise Harders, Kate Borchman Hassebrook, Sherry Houston, Joann Jackson, Cecelia Lawrence, Julie Pinnell, Janet Stoeger Wilke, Matthew Williams. Other members participating online: Susan Franklin, Norma Pountney, Vickie Retzlaff, Gayle Roberts, and Kara Welch. The following Advisory Council members were absent: Beth Falla, Jean Hellwege, and Abigail Yellman. Commission staff present: Rod Wagner, Christa Burns, JoAnn McManus, Richard Miller, Mary Jo Ryan, Sam Shaw, and Holly Woldt.

#### Welcome and Introductions

Chair Beth Kabes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by John Dale and seconded by Janet Wilke to approve the agenda. Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes of July 17, 2015 Meeting: Moved by Julie Pinnell and seconded by Sherry Houston. The Minutes were approved with the following changes:

- Page 4 under Kate Borchman Hassebrook's report – The word "first" was removed before "summer reading program" with Kate pointing out that it was not the library's first SRP.
- Page 4 under Janet Stoeger Wilke's report – The second sentence should read: "The archive space will be used to describe, manage and apply access to archival materials."
- It was noted that today is Council member Cecelia Lawrence's birthday – all wished her a happy one.

**Public Comment:** None.

#### Reports / Discussion:

Nebraska Library Commission – Rod Wagner

Rod Wagner reported on the successful Celebration of Nebraska Books that took place on Saturday, November 14, 2015 in the same room the Council is meeting today. Over 100 people were there (a situation he described as "cozy") to hear authors read from their works that had won Nebraska Book Awards; to learn that Lincoln City Library's One Book One Lincoln effort had won the Jane Pope Geske Award; and to hear that Karen Gettert Shoemaker's novel, *The Meaning of Names*, had been chosen as the 2016 One Book One Nebraska title. Wagner thanked the Omaha Public Library for donating a significant quantity of Shoemaker's books that will be used in book kits to be checked out throughout the state. Another feature of the Celebration was Dr. Thomas Berg's presentation on the 2015 One Book One Nebraska selection, *Death Zones & Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting* by Beverly Deepe Keever.

Wagner commented that Congress and the President had done something that had not been done in a long time – reached a budget deal on federal spending for the rest of this year and next. That budget is scheduled to be approved in December. It appears that there are no major concerns about library funding in that process.

Concerning the next session of the Unicameral, Wagner said that we were hoping it would be undramatic. However, Legislative Resolutions 288 and 290, interim studies during the long and short sessions, were heard on September 25, 2015 before the General Affairs Committee. LR 290 deals with the digitizing of newspapers, primarily by Nebraska public libraries but by others as well. We have already met with the Nebraska Press Association, some newspaper owners, and the State Historical Society and will be holding meetings in the future as well. In addition the Nebraska Library Commission developed guidelines in February 2014 to be followed, primarily in response to grant funds that had been requested from the Kreutz Bennett Donor Advised Fund (through the Nebraska Community Foundation). The issue of most concern relates to copyright permission and the apparent placement of digitized content on the Internet by an Iowa company that is doing the majority of this digitizing for Nebraska public libraries.

LR 288 relates to conflicts between libraries or library boards, and city or village elected or appointed officials concerning their relative powers. Under current state statute cities of the first class have the option of having either governing or advisory library boards. (Of Nebraska's 30 first class cities, 12 have advisory, and 18 have governing library boards with some of these being hybrids.) Wagner called together a group of librarians to discuss this issue. Members include Julee Hector, Gayle Roberts, Steve Fosselman, Francine Canfield, Pat Leach and Richard Miller. Early in December this group will meet with Lynn Rex, Executive Director, and Gary Krumland, Assistant Director of the League of Nebraska Municipalities to learn the intentions of that organization to introduce legislation during the next session of the Legislature. Wagner noted that last Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> the Commissioners adopted a motion opposing changes in state statute that would reduce the power of public library boards. He said that the Advisory Council may decide (or not) to take a position on this issue during its current meeting.

Although the Unicameral usually does not consider budget issues during its short session, the most recent report from the Revenue Forecasting Board may change that. That group predicted a shortfall of \$132 million in state revenues. Wagner said that this probably will not affect the current state fiscal year (the first year of the biennium), but it may during the second state fiscal year.

Several present, both Advisory Council members and Commission staff, commented on LR 288. John Dale discussed the governing library board as a "buffer" that tries to keep library issues protected somewhat from politics in city/village government. Richard Miller talked about a number of incidents in Nebraska communities in which such conflicts have arisen. Denise Harders said she agrees with the concept of a necessary "buffer" that John Dale described. Matt Williams indicated that he has worked for libraries with both governing and advisory library boards, the latter being his current situation in Kearney. The difficulty he sees with governing boards, in regard to local elected officials, is that the latter have to give the library the money, but they have no control over how it is spent. He said that conflicts between library boards and local officials can happen with either arrangement.

Sherry Houston suggested that such conflicts might not occur if, for example, the library director were to be paid what the fire chief is paid. Norma Pountney, commenting on the particular situation that has recently arisen with Omaha Public Library, says that that is a unique situation. The current mayor has appointed every library board member now in place. She said the OPL is having difficulty living within the budget the mayor has allowed. The mayor, according to Pountney, is very concerned that this bill be passed. (That was evident during the hearing on LR 288 since the mayor's chief of staff testified despite the fact that the hearing supposedly applied only to cities of the second class and villages, or at least not to Lincoln and Omaha.) Pountney pointed out that the library board had been "scolded" by the public for not explaining what had gone on when policy requested identifying information on a reportedly inebriated library user at OPL's branch it shares with Metro Community College was disturbing other patrons. OPL's board supported the staff who refused to share that information with the police.

Gayle Roberts commented that the situation at OPL is a prime example of a mayor that is out-of-control. She said that such actions can mean that a library board (and the library) have to give up its code of ethics. The current statutes help us when we come up against a rogue mayor or city administration, she noted.

#### Nebraska Library Association – Gayle Roberts

NLA has held its first Executive Board meeting with its newly-elected officers. She reported on the many changes that are occurring with the organization almost simultaneously:

- We are looking for a new journal editor.
- Ken Winston, NLA lobbyist, has resigned, so they are interviewing candidates for his replacement.
- Michael Straatmann, NLA Executive Director, is also resigning, and the Executive Board is restructuring that position to take away some of the duties in hopes of increasing the chances of finding someone willing to fill the job. These changes include a one-half-time person to do the billing, etc. In addition the primary responsibility for annual conference planning will now rest with the immediate Past President of NLA.

NLA hopes to be able to announce the replacement staff for these positions at its December board meeting.

Roberts also said that last October's NLA/NSLA annual conference was well-received. Cecelia Lawrence thanked NLA for planning the bus trip to the upcoming PLA conference in Denver.

Nebraska School Librarians Association – Beth Kabes, reporting for Jean Hellwege in her absence Kabes also called the October NLA/NSLA annual conference a success. Speaking of successes she noted that Scott Middle School in Lincoln where Jean Hellwege is School Librarian, was one of four winners of the Gale/Cengage "Library Media Connections 2015 TEAMS Award." This was announced during the recent AASL annual conference. This bi-annual award recognizes "Teacher and Media Specialists Teams that collaborate to improve student achievement." Scott Middle School's project, entitled, "Make a Difference with Social Action Research," had the school librarian working with middle school teachers to teach students about the research process and how to write a research paper. In particular the students identified a social issue and answered the question, "What can I do to help?" Their research culminated in the "Make a Difference Fair" where students presented their research to the community and raised money for their causes. For more information, go to this link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1CaO1rIpOT5SFVHRDAtaG1ObVk/view?pli=1>

Kabes mentioned that she visited with Jean Hellwege during the "Ideas Room" poster session at the AASL conference. The students raised a total of \$12,000 in one night.

Kabes briefly touched on the following issues:

- Proposals for presentation sessions for the April 21 and 22, 2016 spring Nebraska Educational Technology Association (NETA) conference were due November 13, 2015. Those who submitted will hear back by about February 1, 2016 concerning the status of their proposals.
- Jager – "Think Plank Library"  
Aligns school library standards with Common Core standards.
- Spring School Librarian Days are tentatively planned in cooperation with the System Directors on March 19, 2016 in three locations to be announced.

#### **The Future of Nebraska Libraries** – Council Discussion

(Note: The results of the discussion and reporting out from the two groups into which the Council split -- as well as any resulting comments by the Council as a whole -- are appended to these Council Minutes.)

## Noon – Lunch

### Council Round Table – Successes and Challenges

**Mary Jo Ryan**, Commission staff member, made some additional comments about last Saturday's Celebration of Nebraska Books.

**Beth Kabes** reported that, while remaining in Columbus, she is working with the Nebraska ESU Coordinating Council, working with that entity to help with moving all 17 ESUs toward blended learning. Instructional Materials (I-Mat) is made up of media professionals from across Nebraska helping to integrate media materials into the efforts of all school districts. Discussion of this group centers now on whether or not decisions concerning educational integration of instructional materials should be made at the teacher level or at the ESU level. "BlendEd" is the Coordinating Council's educational model that combines face-to-face and distance classroom methods with online delivery and participation, with increased student control of certain elements of this learning.

Kabes also mentioned the state Department of Education's efforts through "AQuESTT, "Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow," with the goal of viewing individual students holistically, classifying schools into four performance levels, and allowing citizen involvement. The six tenets of this effort are meant to offer an improved methodology of measuring school evaluation that goes beyond just student test scores. The six tenets are:

- Positive partnerships, relationships, and student success
- Transitions
- Educational opportunities and access
- College and career ready
- Assessment
- Educator effectiveness

Using these rubrics, each year three schools will be chosen statewide for special intervention. Other states are apparently interested to see how Nebraska does with this approach. For more information on AQuESTT, go to: <http://aquestt.com/>

**Kate Borchman Hassebrook** said that the Lyons Public Library has digitized all of Lyons newspapers. The cost of the project was \$10,125 with two-thirds of this covered by the library foundation. She mentioned that the Advantage Company from Cedar Rapids, Iowa was the company that did the digitizing. Hassebrook also mentioned that Lyons Public Library is in the midst of its annual fundraiser, the Festival of Trees, right now.

This being the last meeting for Hassebrook, Rod Wagner presented her with an Admiralship in the Nebraska Navy and a certificate of appreciation for her years on the Advisory Council.

**Matthew Williams**, following up on the theme of digitizing newspapers, noted that the library has digitized local newspapers up to the late 1950s. Now, however, since NewsBank owns the rights to newspapers up until now, the library has no plans to digitize these more recent newspapers. NewsBank has indicated that it has no plans to digitize them, but it will not allow the library to do so.

Williams noted that the library is continuing its author series, the most recent being the *NY Times* best-selling Karen Joy Fowler, author of *The Jane Austen Book Club*. Fowler is one of a number of authors who are part of the nonprofit, Writers for WaterBridge, to provide potable water in other countries. Williams noted that the library will be trying to bring a male author to the library next. Among the

challenges he noted are the efforts by some library book clubs to take over the function of bringing authors to the library (something he is resisting since they do not represent well the readership of the library), and difficulty finding good workers to fix construction issues in the library such as leaks, incorrectly hung glass doors, etc.

(Note: Later in the meeting Williams mentioned that Linda Murrish had died from cancer. She had been a Library Clerk at the Kearney Public Library for some thirty years.)

**John Dale** noted that his granddaughter, Ellie Piersol, had just published her first book, *Mysterium Excelsum Unum*, this fall. It involves Stella, who returns to Nebraska following the death of her father, to attend the school, Mysterium Excelsum, where everyone has a certain magic but at which students go missing. He also noted that he is a board member of the University Place Community Association, and recently Lincoln City Library's director Pat Leach spoke to the group about the need for a new central library. He noted that a study that had been done on this topic while he was still assistant director had recently been updated. He says there is still "a long way to go," and that Pat has probably spoken to every group possible in town.

**Julie Pinnell** said that Doane College will become "Doane University" in May 2016, a name change that pretty much recognizes what is already a fact since the institution has four campuses, a PhD in Education, and has provided Master's Degrees for years. The college is also online now. Of course the library has to keep up. She said she believes that there have been more change in the last four years than she had seen in quite a long time before that. Of course much more of what they offer is digital, so they can meet the needs of all their students no matter their location.

**Cecelia Lawrence** noted that North Platte Public Library is moving ahead on a new HVAC system but that the basement needs to be dry before an installation can occur, something that is difficult with the city's high water table since it is located between two rivers. One of the challenges she mentioned relates to a total solar eclipse (with 93% to 97% coverage) that will occur August 17, 2017 and that will have its maximum duration in a number of very small Nebraska towns close to North Platte, such as Tryon. She said that these towns, which could face an onslaught of 10,000 to 20,000 people, are not prepared for it. A local astronomer, Darrell Barr, has come back several times, and some local people are doing whatever they can to help these towns prepare. For more information on the eclipse, go to the following link: <http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEgoogle/SEgoogle2001/SE2017Aug21Tgoogle.html>

Lawrence also spoke about the Chautauqua 2016 coming to North Platte with the theme of "World War I: Legions of a Forgotten War." She said that their library will be working with their book clubs and the local community college in building on this event. The portrayals include: Woodrow Wilson, Edith Wharton, W.E.B. Du Bois, William Jennings Bryan and Jane Addams. For more information on this, go to: <http://humanitiesnebraska.org/assets/uploads/2013/02/ww1-Community-Application-2016-1.pdf>

**Janet Stoeger Wilke** said most of her current challenges included filling staff positions since four staff have recently retired or resigned. She expects they will reconfigure two of these positions. The Web Services Librarian position is now vacant. They plan to have meetings with the entire library faculty to discuss this position before filling it. Filling these positions normally takes about four months. The new University System President, Hank Bounds, is stressing cross-cooperation among the four campuses of the system using the phrase, "One University – Four Campuses." Wilke said that he has already visited the campus there more times in six months than the previous president did in his entire tenure. Returning to the staffing issue Wilke indicated that the library has two archivists, one on a three-year appointment to bring the university archives up-to-standard. She said this effort is already resulting in the opening up of these records on campus. This is especially timely since UNK is planning to celebrate its 111<sup>th</sup> year as a higher education institution in the same year it will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> year as part of the

University of Nebraska System. The Chancellor wants to honor this, with displays especially in the library but also across campus.

**Francine Canfield** noted the success her library recently celebrated, along with the other city departments, when they were thanked during a city council meeting for all staying under budget. Canfield noted that they were able to do that because they had some vacancy savings.

**Denise Harders** noted that we are coming up on the one-year anniversary of the dramatic changes in the Systems from six to four Systems. She said that the System Directors are working hard at determining how best to make the Systems work for library improvement statewide. A recent example she offered is the Youth Services Day sponsored by Three Rivers Library System (TRLS), Southeast Library System (SELS), and Central Plains Library System (CPLS) which she said filled every available cabin at Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland. This is the first time for CPLS to participate with these two others Systems in this event. She said that next year the plan is to do this again but also to take some of the programs offered at that event and to travel with them elsewhere in the state. This is but one example of other statewide efforts the Systems plan.

**Joann Jackson** said that the library at the Youth Rehab and Treatment Center in Geneva is considered the “hub” of YRTC. She said there are seven study halls that regularly use the library for these incarcerated girls who range in age from 14 through 19. She noted that the Nebraska Association of Institutional Libraries (NAIL) had met at YRTC in September with Sam Shaw, from the Commission, offering training on the NebraskaAccess databases. She noted as a challenge the changing of administrators that is occurring in state-run institutions. She also noted that one of the YRTC staff had recently attended “unjammed” training in Oregon entitled, “Unjammed 2.0: Transforming Schools in Juvenile Justice Facilities Through the Power of Blended Learning.” Jackson mentioned that she really appreciated the session during the fall NLA/NSLA conference, “Working Well with People with Addiction or Mental Health Issues,” sponsored by the Public Library and Trustee Section. Finally she said that she hopes to do a One Book One School project in 2016.

**Sherry Houston** noted as one her challenges the lack of public library service (without charge) to now probably about 80,000 people in Sarpy County. (See lives in one of the SIDs for which this is the case.) She brought along examples of several different services now available through Sump Memorial Library in Papillion – “Playaways” with screen – great for keeping the little ones busy during long car trips; and “Shapes” heavy-duty, plastic carrying bags each of which contains a number of books related to that shape -- triangle, square, etc. The latter were purchased using funding from a Youth Grant for Excellence through the Commission and with local matching money.

**Gayle Roberts** was excited to announce that the library has now selected a building contractor – Weiss Company – for the new library construction. The schedule is to break ground in April 2016 and aim for February 2017 for completion of the project. Roberts also mentioned that the library had held its annual Sugar Plum Festival last week. The challenge – how to run a bigger library building with the same number of staff.

**Norma Pountney** spoke of Laura Marlane, the new director at Omaha Public Library; she came to Omaha from Providence, RI. Pountney also reviewed a number of the services of the newly-opened Do Space in Omaha, established and funded by the Heritage Foundation for a five-year period, and located in the old Borders Bookstore on 72<sup>nd</sup> and Dodge Streets. Some features of Do Space: a digital library (no books); three 3-D printers (including one industrial type); printers; software; lots of apps; essentially a lot of things Omaha Public Library can’t afford to provide. On the second floor Metro Community College will be providing classes. It is now a separate entity, but it is hoped that OPL can take it over after the five-year initial operation. OPL and Do Space will, however, in the meantime, work on projects together.

Pountney noted that OPL is starting coding clubs primarily for young girls; these may interact with Do Space. The greatest challenge is, as noted before, to operate within the budget the city is providing. She noted that the library board is having weekly meetings about the \$850,000 shortfall. She noted that when she was acting director she cut hours at all branches so that they all could remain open, and she cut some databases. She said it is very difficult to plan for the future given current circumstances.

**Vickie Retzlaff** noted that a recent challenge was that it completed its strategic plan for purposes of library accreditation. The library earned the Silver Level of accreditation for the first time ever. As part of the strategic plan they learned that school busing does not allow children time to come to the library after school, so the library is taking story hour to the school the first Friday of each month. Each session runs about 45 minutes. The library also plans to start a Teen Advisory Board and an adult book club after January 1, 2016.

Retzlaff also reported on the very successful author tour sponsored by Western Library System during which Tim Smith (supporting his “Buck Wilder” character-based books) toured around the area for two entire weeks. The recent Halloween bake sale fundraiser netted over \$2,000, a significant amount in a small town. Another challenge the library is facing – they are trying to get the hours of the assistant director increased so that the library can be open when Vickie is not there. She thinks the county commissioners (This is a county library.) are coming around.

Commission staff member **Christa Burns** offered information on two upcoming events:

- “Big Talk for Small Libraries,” the annual day-long presentation from and for small libraries all over the United States, will occur on Friday, February 26, 2016. Those wishing to propose sessions for the conference need to submit their proposals by Friday, January 8, 2016. Last year more than 500 people tuned in. For more information go to: <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/2015/11/13/call-for-speakers-for-the-2016-big-talk-from-small-libraries-online-conference/>
- The face-to-face workshops for E-rate have now been completed. However, for those who were not able to attend (or if they want another dose), Christa will be offering an online version of the training on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 that will run from 1:30 to 3:30 CT. See the following for more details: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventshow.asp?ProgId=14660>

**Rod Wagner** spoke about the public library accreditation process for 2015, noting how time-consuming it had been. Commission staff Richard Miller thanked the System Directors for helping the Commission (and himself in particular) get through the exceptionally large number of libraries either up for reaccreditation or trying for accreditation for the first time. Miller noted that we would be lengthening the accreditation of some of the libraries accredited this year to a four-year, rather than a three-year period (at the suggestion of the System Directors) to more evenly divide each year’s cohort of libraries trying for accreditation.

## **New Business**

### **Recommendations and Resolutions**

Rod Wagner asked if the Council wished to entertain a motion related to HR 288, the powers of library boards, at this meeting. Sherry Houston moved, and John Dale seconded the language that had been approved by the Commissioners at their meeting last Friday. This reads:

“Oppose modification of state statutes that would diminish the relative authority of library boards in their governing functions.”

There was discussion of this motion with some feeling that this supports the library board as “protector” when there is an ineffective village or city council. The intent of the motion is to indicate that what is currently in place in statute should not be altered. John Dale repeated his views on the board acting as a buffer. Rod Wagner and Richard Miller commented on what had happened with the 2012 statutory change related to personnel policy and procedure. Francine Canfield felt that the wording is negative and proposed (along with other Advisory Council members) which ultimately resulted in the following motion:

**“The State Advisory Council on Libraries supports retention of the current state statute in regard to the relative authority of library boards in their governing function.”**

Two votes were taken, first on the amendment to the original motion, then on the motion itself which incorporated the amendment language. Following are the roll-call votes for both votes:

**To amend the motion:**

Voting “Aye”: Kabes, Canfield, Dale, Harders, Hassebrook, Houston, Jackson, Pinnell, Wilke, Williams, Roberts, Pountney, Retzlaff

Voting “Nay”: none

Abstentions: Lawrence

Absent from vote: Franklin, Welch

**To approve the motion as amended:**

Voting “Aye”: Kabes, Canfield, Dale, Harders, Hassebrook, Houston, Jackson, Pinnell, Wilke, Williams, Roberts, Pountney, Retzlaff

Voting “Nay”: none

Abstentions: Lawrence

Absent from vote: Franklin, Welch

**Resolution congratulating the Scott Middle School team – Jean Hellwege, School Librarian, the Teachers, and the Students involved** – for their recognition as a winner of the Gale/Cengage “Library Media Connections 2015 TEAMS Award,” given at the recently concluded national AASL conference. The team’s “Make a Difference with Social Action Research” resulted in students learning about the research process and about writing a research paper, and culminated in the group raising over \$12,000 for their cause during the school’s “Make a Difference Fair.”

Moved by Canfield; seconded by Houston. Passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting** – Thursday, March 10, 2016 to coincide with NLA’s Advocacy Day. Meeting will start at 1:30 PM that day.

**Adjournment** – Moved by Wilke, seconded by Jackson. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.\



**APPENDIX TO STATE ADVISORY MEETING MEETINGS  
November 20, 2015**

**The Future of Nebraska Libraries – Council Discussion  
Notes from Groups 1 and 2**

**Group 1 – Discussion of the five questions:**

1. Engagement with and support of local initiatives/community engagement
  - a. Involvement with city government, local organizations, school system to get their view of community needs.
  - b. Building relationships with these entities
  - c. Facilitated discussions in the community to address needs; not just talk
  
2. Prosperity & Quality of Life
  - a. Becoming a community center – public meetings (everything from the soccer club to La Leche League)
  - b. Community initiatives – e.g., new Veterans’ Home; road changes (new roundabout)
  - c. Facilitator in the community – of information; act in a neutral role
  - d. Information provision – 13,000 of the 41,000 library card holders in Kearney are not in a Kearney ZIP Code
  - e. Community needs surveys
  - f. Public forum
  
3. Future look of libraries:
  - a. Working on it right now – the public library is not a book warehouse, but the public thinks of us as this.
  - b. We need to change public perceptions – to go beyond the “old” perception.
  - c. But there is a backlash against this effort; advise caution.
  - d. Library needs to do basics the best, then cautiously add on to those basics. Makerspace is not going to save the library
  - e. Fast broadband is a “basic” and is needed for the library mission – education, literacy, information.
  - f. Top-notch customer service and personal attention, no matter when/what. In Nebraska it depends on which community one lives in.
  
4. What needs to change:
  - a. Education – There needs to be more involvement among libraries from the Commission on down.
  - b. That education needs to cover “how-to,” and better cooperation.
  - c. There are not enough meetings – the formation of consortia means more limited focus by those groups, but meetings on general topics are needed.
  - d. Need more focus groups in communities themselves.
  - e. The stereotypical “shy” librarian – library staff must be engaging the public, no matter who that staff is.

**Group 2 – Discussion of the five questions:**

1. Engagement with and support of local initiatives/community engagement
  - a. Strong leadership by library director

- b. Need to be mediator
  - c. Need to identify community needs
  - d. Needs to be a hub within the community
  - e. Miscellaneous activities = even off-site
  - f. If more than one library in a community – work together
  - g. Staff/trustees being members of other organizations
  - h. Google Maps – putting local businesses on the map
  - i. Make meeting room available
2. Prosperity & Quality of Life:
- a. Work with economic development folks
  - b. Serve as catalyst for ideas
  - c. Innovations: 3-D printers; green screen; recording booth; etc. nice to have available to the community
  - d. Community Engagement Center (at UNO; Barbara White Center):
    - i. Meeting space
    - ii. Home for non-profits
    - iii. Partnerships
  - e. Concerts in the library; poetry readings; swing choir
  - f. Transition spaces
  - g. Safe space for kids, challenged – all people
3. Future look of libraries:
- a. Meeting space
  - b. Flexible
  - c. Room for “people”
  - d. Staff at library and on-line
  - e. All types of areas – quiet study to noisy activities
  - f. Evolving technology so all have access
  - g. Look at needs of all generations; virtual too
  - h. Need to look at digital space to catch the young generation
  - i. What will get them engaged with libraries
  - j. Work on bringing families as well as individuals
  - k. Virtual story time too
  - l. Using digital to bring people physically together
  - m. Today’s world – no privacy because of devices
  - n. New stuff coming – libraries need to be part of the discussion
4. What needs to change:
- a. World is a smaller place – all connected; all on camera
  - b. Needs to have visible connection, so libraries need to be on all social media to catch all generations
  - c. New ways to demonstrate Return on Investment (ROI)