Central New York Library Resources Council

Legislative Committee

March 15, 2012

3:00 p.m.

**Present:** Debby Emerson (CLRC liaison); Deirdre Joyce (CLRC); Anna Dobkowski (CLRC)

***via teleconference:***

Carole Kupelian, chair (Ret.); Wanda Bruchis (Mid-York Library System); Mike McLane (Ret.)

**Excused:** Bob Manning (OCPL & Baldwinsville Board of Trustees); Sue Kowalski (ESM/Pine Grove JH)

**Absent:** Rachael Altman, student liaison (iSchool)

Meeting began around 3pm. No official call to order

**Approval of Minutes:**

No motion was made to approve the previous minutes. These may be approved at the next meeting (unscheduled).

**Action Items:**

* Talk to NYLA about creating a meaningful report that can be used with the legislators (Debby).

**Agenda Items (**No official agenda, this meeting was a debrief of Advocacy Day (March 6, 2012))**:**

* Debby discussed the positive effect that the advocacy seemed to have. The Senate has approved a 4% increase to library funding while the Assembly approved 2 million in additional funds ($1 million aid increase, $1 million increase in adult literacy funds). At the state hearing, libraries were mentioned numerous times.
* 1456 participants registered via NYLA for Advocacy
* Meeting with Katie Campos in the governor’s office was a bit difficult at first. (Everyone was tired.) She did recommend more statistics to back up our claims. This evolved into a discussion on reporting and what the legislators really look at. The state report, which informs most legislators on what libraries do, does not paint a complete picture of what libraries around the state do and how they provide value to their communities. This is due largely to the fact that the state report is structured to feed into a federal report. Even so, there is a need for better information so the committee discussed how CLRC could take the lead on creating such a report. This will involve meetings with different types of libraries (to see what they feel the legislators and executive should know about what they do); with people from the Dept. of Budget and from the Governor’s Office. Some of this will involve collecting the same information currently collected but presenting it in a more meaningful way. This is an opportunity for the committee that we will pursue.
* Everyone gave an overview of the meetings that they had and their impressions (generally positive) of the day.
* Brief discussion on this year’s advocacy efforts which will involve a poster contest to be completed by November of next year.

**Next meeting date: A doodle poll will be created.**

No motion to adjourn (resulting from no call to order/informality)

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Déirdre Joyce**

**Asst. Director and Regional Archivist, CLRC**

**3/20/2012**