



Consent Agenda June 2020

Executive Committee

There was concern about proposed House Bills 243 and 408 dealing with Pornography Exposure Prevention. Though the bills passed, 243 doesn't affect the library since it is a post-retail entity and 408 is directed towards individuals and not government agencies like the library. As such they are no longer of critical concern.

Government Documents Roundtable

The Government Documents Roundtable is currently recruiting members. If you are interested in government information from any type of government (international, national, state, and local), we would love to hear from you. The roundtable would like to call attention to several COVID-19 related resources that may be of interest to librarians. We recommend this LibGuide: <http://libguides.fdlp.gov/c.php?g=1026296> and this free webinar: <https://www.fdlp.gov/news-and-events/4513-webinar-covid-19-and-collections-care> (while the webinar takes place during the board meetings, a recording will be made available).

Utah State Library

As Covid-19 changed our normal work flow and scheduled events in mid-March we were able to pivot quickly and respond. We worked with our libraries supporting them on such things as closing procedures, handling materials, professional development for staff, questions about their statistics, and consulting with individual libraries as needed. USL continues to do this now that libraries are reopening. We are sharing Covid-19 information with all libraries. <https://library.utah.gov/covid-19-resources/>

Two staff changes:

Merrily Cannon who was our State Data Coordinator moved into the open Training Coordinator position in February 2020 and Heidi Fendrick who was the Acquisitions Technician on the Resources team moved into the State Data Coordinator position in April 2020.

Development Program

USL has awarded nine grants totaling \$233,889 dollars since December.

- Census Minigrant
- Children and Teen Book Enhancement Grant
- Technology Enhancement Grant
- VR Access and Exposure Grant
- OverDrive Support Minigrant
- UPLIFT Professional Excellence Grants
- UPLIFT Organizational Resource Grants
- Summer Reading Support Grant, in immediate response to COVID
- Wifi Extension Grant, in immediate response to COVID*

**The COVID WIFI extension grant was awarded before we received additional CARES funding and any library branch willing to upgrade and expand their WIFI network to ensure coverage in their parking lot and outdoor spaces was eligible. Twenty-two library locations received this grant and a number of states are now reaching out to us and using our model to allocate some of their CARES funding.*

The State Library received about \$290,000 in CARES funds from IMLS. These funds are to be used primarily to address broadband access and digital inclusion during COVID-19. As part of that, USL, in partnership with UETN and the Department of Indian Affairs, are working with Tribal leadership on ways to improve and expand broadband access on tribal lands.

In March, Colleen Eggett, Sharon Deeds, and Liz Gabbitas presented at Utah Educational Library Media Association Conference and USL had a vendor table.

Liz Gabbitas, Sharon Deeds and Darci Card worked to get a virtual storytime going, *Cabin Fever Storytime*, which is a collaboration with libraries across the state. One of our many fabulous librarians does a virtual story time daily at 10am and it has been a huge hit.

Sharon Deeds coordinated monthly virtual directors meetings as well as meetings for Youth Services staff. Library staff have really responded to being able to meet in one space and share concerns, ideas, innovations, and motivations.

Jeri Openshaw has worked with KSL Weather Werks which ran through the month of April during Kevin Eubank's Weather Forecast at 6 pm and on KSL's Facebook and Podcast page to promote Utah's Online Library. USL has also been working with FM100 radio marketing virtual messages for Utah's Online Library during FM100 host Rebecca Cressman's story telling hour Monday through Friday throughout the month of May – the story telling segment has received more than 15,000 view per day.

Jeri Openshaw also arranged for marketing messages to run on the MidUtah Radio Station highlighting the Covid donation website on behalf of the Governor's Office.

Resources Program

The contract for our new digital library platform is finalized. Migration of the Utah Government Digital Library is underway and should have a shiny new web presence by late summer.

A group of librarians across the state met as part of a committee tasked with managing the resources available to the residents of Utah through Utah's Online Public Library. The committee will be exploring ways to raise awareness of existing resources and evaluate how this service can be improved to be even more beneficial to Utahns.

Darci Card was awarded the Grande Performer award at the recent Heritage Huddle for her fantastic work on USL's website and innovating creative ways for patrons to stay connected with their library during the pandemic.

Blind and Disabled Program

Starting mid-March the Library for the Blind staff have worked in the building to directly serve patrons in Utah and the other states. USL was closed on the day of the earthquake and resumed operations the following day. The Program for the Blind and Disabled received a congratulatory letter from the Governor's Office in May for the work we are doing in serving blind customers nationwide.

USL was selected as one of four NLS network libraries to participate in the braille e-reader pilot. Marie Parker, our braille transcriber, will oversee and manage the USL pilot project. The remote training for those managing the project is scheduled to happen sometime in June, and the pilot is scheduled to begin in July. It is exciting to be participating in this pilot, and it will be interesting to see what the results are, based on user experience.

Vince Silas was also awarded the Grande Performer award for his dedication to USL for the past fourteen years. He will be retiring soon, and we will certainly miss his sense of humor and willingness to help.



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor

May 11, 2020

Utah State Library Division
250 North 1950 West Suite A
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Utah State Library Division,

As Governor of the State of Utah, I wanted to commend everyone who has maintained business operations for the Utah State Library's Program for the Blind and Disabled during both the earthquake and pandemic events. I have been impressed to hear about the staff working onsite to provide service to patrons throughout the crisis, including the reader's advisors who assist patrons with ordering books and the warehouse staff who process and ship book orders.

Even more impressive, your service has not stopped at the borders of Utah. I am proud to know that you have continued to serve blind and disabled readers in Alaska and Wyoming, provide braille service for 21 states, and assist states east of the Mississippi as their libraries have closed.

The importance of this service cannot be overstated. During times of crisis such as now, a book can provide comfort and escape. I am proud to have all of you representing the State of Utah with exemplary service and applaud your work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary R. Herbert".

Gary R. Herbert
Governor