

WPLC Historical and Local Collections Committee

September 10, 2018, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Meeting notes

Present: A. Hoffman (Monarch Library System), David Kranz (Southwest Wisconsin Library System), Nate Pflager (Winding Rivers Library System), Tamara Ramski (South Central Library System), Bradley Shipp (Outagamie Waupaca Library System)

Absent: Jill Fuller (Bridges Library System) Rebecca Leannah (Racine Public Library)

The group did a round of introductions.

Update and discussion: Historical newspapers and BadgerLink

The group discussed the change in historical newspapers that will be included in BadgerLink:

- Libraries may largely not be aware of what newspapers are going to be included in the new product and what will be lost. More information would be helpful about what is and isn't there.
- There is a general lack of knowledge of the content of different databases of newspapers. Some committee members were not aware of other products or of the extent of the WPLC project.
- The fact that few libraries are mentioning the change suggests that the product was underutilized.
- In larger communities, there are more people involved in local history, so they may be hearing more from their communities.
- At our next meeting, the group will discuss how to educate people more about the historical newspaper project.
- WiLS will find out if title lists and date ranges can be shared with the community.

Update and discussion: LSTA funded Digitization kits

DPI is funding digitization kits for public library systems who would like them. It will be the expectation that the systems receiving the kits will be providing support for them. The group discussed the kits.

- T. Ramski provided some background. Ben Miller from the Department of Public Instruction has been working with SCLS to determine exactly what equipment will be in the kits and how many kits there will be. There is a survey out to the systems now to determine interest. SCLS will be putting the kits together and loaning them out permanently to other systems. The equipment is going to be provided, but there are not many plans for what is going to happen next.
- T. Ramski will be training on the equipment at the system level. The systems will be responsible for training the libraries and for uploading content.
- Monarch is going to be getting one, WRLS already has a scanner in each interested library so they aren't interested, but could help. OWLS is on the fence. They only have 16 libraries and those that are digitizing already have the equipment. SWLS has expressed interest but doesn't really know the need at the individual library level.

- The group discussed encouraging more statewide standards. DPI will be purchasing what SCLS is already using so there will be consistency in the equipment. Recollection Wisconsin has created standards and documentation and Emily Pfotenhauer is happy to help and provide training at the system level. SCLS is using ContentDM hosted by Milwaukee Public Library, which is funded by WPLC. The group will talk more about the WPLC funding of Recollection Wisconsin in a future meeting.
- T. Ramski will begin working on pulling together existing resources from Recollection Wisconsin and WPLC, including the series of webinars that WPLC did. She will keep the group up to date and will reach out for ideas periodically.

Discussion: Newspaper Platform Usability Testing and Evaluation

Since the launch of the historical newspaper project, concerns have been expressed about the Tecnavia platform provided by WNA. WiLS has developed a plan for some usability testing and evaluation. The group discussed the plan and tasks for this evaluation.

There are people, like knowledgeable genealogists, who use the resource and who don't have content in it. They may be useful to include as testers. D. Kranz knows some people in this category and will make a list. It may also be valuable to include someone who is completely unfamiliar with the products. B. Shipps volunteered the OWLS assistant to test in this way.

For the testing, we'll target 10-15 people to start. S. Morrill will create a list from the different sources and run it by the group.

The group felt the tasks were appropriate. S. Morrill will fix the issue with the PDF form so that testers can easily complete the form.

Discussion: Sharing Recollection Wisconsin outreach materials

Because the link in the agenda did not work, the group was not able to review the materials. S. Morrill will send a new link and gather feedback via email.

Set meeting schedule

The group was comfortable with meeting quarterly in March, June, September, and December. S. Morrill will schedule meetings for December and 2019 and will prepare a schedule of recurring items for each meeting for review at the December meeting.

We would propose that this group plan to meet quarterly (March, June, September, and December). If that is acceptable, WiLS will schedule meetings for December and 2019 and prepare a schedule of recurring items for each meeting for review at the December meeting.