

SERVICES COMMITTEE

April 12, 2006

3:30 PM

PRESENT: Erin Apostol, Brian Hartson, Robert Jaquay, Lou Anne Lundgren, Lois Prenovost, Philip Ritter, Heidi Fuge

I. PROGRAM OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Committee members discussed the three nominations from the urban/suburban libraries: Albany, Bethlehem and Guilderland. There were no nominations for programs in rural libraries.

Extensive discussions regarding the definitions of “programs” and “services” as used in the Program of the Year criteria. Consensus to table this discussion and place it on the agenda for a future meeting.

The Committee decided to make two awards - to the Guilderland Public Library for their “Consumer Health @ Guilderland,” and to the Albany Public Library for their Bookmobile.

II. CENTRAL LIBRARY GRANT

P. Ritter explained that the Central Library Grant followed the guidelines established by the State, with the grant amounts being pre-determined by the State. The Central Book Aid portion of the grant was \$71,500. The balance of the grant (\$143,073) would be used for portions of two salaries and for the online databases. The Central Library Advisory Council assisted in determining how the Central Library Grant funds would be used.

He noted that the Central Library Director certified that the Central Book Aid funds for 2005 had all been spent as budgeted.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

Consensus to recommend that the Board approve the submission of the Central Library Grant.

III. LSTA GRANT - STATEWIDE SUMMER READING PROGRAM

P. Ritter explained that formal Board approval was required for the submission of this grant. The \$6,000 will be used to purchase paperback books that will be distributed as prizes at the end of the program.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

Consensus to recommend that the Board approve the submission of the Summer Reading Program Grant.

IV. GATES FOUNDATION GRANT - “STAYING CONNECTED PHASE 2”

P. Ritter described work that would be funded by this training grant. The grant is for \$9,021 and requires a 50% match. The match can be in salaries. As part of the grant, the UHLS Trainer (Rob Carle) would visit all of the member libraries and assess the ability and expertise of the frontline staff members in helping the public to use the public access computers. Following this assessment, he will develop a training program and then will visit each of the facilities and train at least one staff member. The grant will

span two calendar years (2006 into 2007).

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

Consensus to recommend that the Board approve the submission of the Gates “Staying Connected Phase II” Grant.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

E. Apostol noted that the New York State Association of Library Boards (NYSALB) is looking for someone to fill her position as a trustee from the Capital District area. That person would attend 4 meetings a year, work on putting together the Trustee Institute and work on the quarterly newsletter.

Heidi A. Fuge

4/13/06