

SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 10, 2008

PRESENT: Erin Apostol, Brian Hartson, Mary Muller, Richard Naylor, Philip Ritter, Heidi Fuge

ABSENT: Lois Prenovost

E. Apostol, Chair, convened the meeting at 3:30 PM.

I. REPORT ON CONSTRUCTION GRANT APPLICATIONS

P. Ritter reported that the grant applications for the \$800,000 program have all been completed and submitted to the State.

P. Ritter reported that the applications for the \$14 million program are still not complete. He just received the final information from Troy on Tuesday, Sept. 9th and in reviewing the application realized that there were some discrepancies in the figures from the original application and that the final application left a balance of \$6,864 that can be re-distributed to the other applicants. He presented several options for consideration in re-distributing not only the \$6,864 but possibly all of the funds. He pointed out that the amounts allocated to Valley Falls and Brunswick cannot change or the libraries would not be able to undertake the projects.

Discussion regarding the definition of matching funds as it is used in the Construction grant application process. The Brunswick Library by-passed P. Ritter and contacted DLD for a ruling on what constituted matching funds. Grace Kelly at DLD provided them with a definition that differed from ones given in the past.

Extensive discussion regarding the re-distribution options. Consensus to stay with the basic plan that was approved at the August 13th meeting.

MOTION: R. Naylor moved to recommend to the Board that the \$6,864 be divided equally among all of the applicants except Valley Falls and Brunswick (they have already received the maximum amount). B. Hartson seconded.

AYES: 3 ABSTENTION: 1 Motion passed.

R. Naylor reported that the Directors Association had directed him to request that guidelines be developed for the method of funding the Construction Grant applications. Discussion about possible items for consideration:

- E. Apostol expressed concern that the larger libraries might be short-changed since they have often worked to build up their tax base and engage in larger, more expensive projects
- M. Muller suggested that the status of the libraries in regards to the State Minimum Standards might be taken into consideration - i.e. would the project for which they are requesting funds help them to meet higher Standards?
- R. Naylor suggested that the grants should facilitate something that is difficult to achieve without the additional funding

Consensus that this issue will be put on the Agenda for a future meeting and guidelines developed before

the libraries apply for the Construction grants in 2009. In-put will be solicited from the Directors Association and from Joe Mattie and Grace Kelly at the Division of Library Development.

II. FREDERICK McDONALD TRUST GRANT and COMMUNITY ARTS GRANT (Arts Center of the Capital Region)

P. Ritter reported that Mary Fellows wants to apply for several grants that would support operating expenses for the Riverway Storytelling Festival. She will ask the F. McDonald Trust for a maximum of \$2,000 and the Community Arts Center for a maximum of \$5,000. She has successfully applied to these organizations in the past.

MOTION: B. Hartson moved to recommend that the Board approve grant applications to the Frederick McDonald Trust and the Arts Center of the Capital Region as stated above. M. Muller seconded. Unanimous.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

P. Ritter presented the Resolution that needs to be approved by the Board as an addendum to the grant application to the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Hudson River quadricentennial celebration. Consensus to present the Resolution to the Board and ask for approval and signing.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 8th at 3:30 PM.

Heidi A. Fuge
9/11/08