

OWLS Director Report

October 20, 2022 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

Welcome Melissa!

Our new Administrative Assistant, Melissa Knight, started on September 26th. Melissa will be providing support for Board meetings, and Trustees are welcome to reach out to her with general questions any time.

Library Board Visits

The “summer” tour of member library boards wrapped up with Appleton on 9/20, Hortonville on 9/27, and Weyauwega on 10/17. Beginning with summer 2023, I will try to visit nine library board meetings each year, so that each library will be visited at least semi-annually. I am always available to attend additional library board meetings upon request of the library director or trustees.

Fire-Security-Access System Installed

After a long wait for parts, several fits and starts with the installation, and a minor increase in costs, we now have a functioning fire, security, and access system which is almost complete. We’re still missing a couple of sensors, but nothing critical to operations. Access fobs have been distributed to remote staff. Bradley and Dave will receive notifications of any issues that occur after hours.

Joint System Strategic Planning

We are currently in the data gathering phase. Community Conversations were completed in September. The survey is open through October. We have also sent a questionnaire to multitype libraries. WiLS is sharing weekly updates on the number of responses to the survey and multitype questionnaire. The next steps on the working timeline are a system board theming questionnaire in November, and a data webinar (recorded) in December/January. The planning teams will have a strategic plan development meeting in January.

Expiring Board Terms

Three OWLS Trustees’ terms will expire on December 31, 2022. Michelle Frola and Brian Looker will seek appointment for new three-year terms. Mark Marnocha will step down at the end of his term, and I am seeking candidates for an Outagamie County appointment, ideally representing the western half of the county.