

**MINUTES
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2009
WILLIAM E. ANDERSON LIBRARY OF PENN HILLS**

- I. **Call to Order** – Joy Gaetano called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. **Determination of Quorum** – Quorum established
- III. **Public Comments**
- A. Chris Cahillane, Mt. Lebanon Board, criticized the Rapid Response Team process noting the committee was charged to provide only a response to the RAD rather than the creation of a new formula.
 - B. Helen Palascak, Upper St. Clair Library, supported the tiered LGI factor and suggested changing the formula factor name to “Local Effort.”
 - C. In response to comments from Chris Cahillane, Joy Gaetano, ACLA Board, who attended the first meeting of the Rapid Response Team, noted that the group discussed their charge to provide a response and in considering the rationale for the three factors chose to recommend changes to the Membership.
- IV. **Action & Discussion Items**
- A. **Key Highlights from the Executive Director**
 - 1. **2010 Budget Revisions** – Jenkins noted the 2010 budget will now reflect level RAD funding and a 20.1 percent decrease in State funding. The focus is on maintaining core services. The Finance Committee will meet to finalize a revised draft 2010 budget for the Board and Members. Final adoption of the overall 2010 budget is scheduled for the December 14 General Membership meeting.
 - 2. **2010 State Funding** – State funding was transferred to ACLA in October; however, the State has stipulated the funds are restricted and may not be used by libraries prior to January 1. The Finance Committee and ACLA’s auditors have advised ACLA to follow the recommendation from the Commonwealth Libraries to hold the funds in escrow for payment to libraries in January with any accrued interest earnings.
 - B. **Governance Committee’s Recommendation** – At this time Gaetano recused herself and asked Richey to chair the meeting. Fish noted Farrell’s second term would expire at the end of 2009, and the East Region is in the process of identifying a new representative. Fish also noted he personally was appointed to his first full term as the South Region Representative as of January 1, 2010

(he has been completing the un-expired term of Dorothy Davis). Gaetano is completing the unexpired term of Sanjay Saha, and the Governance Committee is recommending that the Members approve her appointment to a full term as an At-Large representative. MOTION by Christine McIntosh, Bethel Park Public Library, and seconded by Kathy Robinson, Crafton Public Library, to appoint Joy Gaetano to her first full-term as an At-Large representative effective January 1, 2010 for a period of three years. MOTION carried unanimously. At this time Gaetano re-joined the meeting.

C. Critical Issues

1. Process Update – Sharon Helfrich, Taskforce Chair, noted that consideration of taskforce recommendations are re-scheduled for the January General Membership meeting in order for the Membership to consider recommendations from the Rapid Response Team regarding the RAD response on the formula issue.
2. Future of Libraries Taskforce Update – Fish noted that a first meeting of taskforce members would be convened shortly.

D. Recommendations From Rapid Response Team

1. Summary of Response to RAD and Overall Recommendations to Members – Christine McIntosh, Bethel Park Public Library, noted the team's draft response to the RAD addresses the three issues that were of concern to the RAD (lack of a local income factor, criteria for determining distress, and lack of a phase-in period). The team agreed to address the local income factor and are presenting two options for calculation of Local Government Income weighted at 20 percent of total funding. The team discussed how to develop a simpler distress factor calculation and recommended using the same calculation method of distress used by Commonwealth Libraries in that identification of distressed communities is determined by the State Tax Equalization Board. Finally, the team is recommending a phase-in period of one year realizing the burden for libraries losing a substantial amount of money.
2. Summary of Re-Factored Distress – John Shaver, Moon Township Library Board, further explained the Rapid Response Team recommended adopting Commonwealth Libraries' method of calculating distress described above, with distribution of funds on a pro-rated basis per capita for each distressed municipality, but to increase eligibility from the fifth percentile to the tenth percentile.
3. Summary of Pro-Rated Local Income – Shaver explained all local income is calculated for each library and then the sum of local income countywide is calculated. Each library's local income is calculated as a percentage of the whole and RAD funds are prorated on that basis.
4. Summary of Tiered Local Income - Helen Palascak, Upper St. Clair Library, explained the tiered method encourages local support of libraries based on a tiered millage rate scale that rewards those communities who

contribute at a higher level (a detailed explanation of the tiered method is attached to these minutes). The scale in use is as follows:

Millage rate	to .09	matched at	\$.05
	.10 - .14		\$.10
	.15 - .19		\$.15
	.20 - .24		\$.20
	.25 and higher		\$.25

5. Summary of Phase-In – JoEllen Kenney, Carnegie Library of McKeesport, explained for 2010 the team is recommending that the old formula be run at 50 percent and the adopted formula be run at 50 percent, and for 2011 the adopted formula be run at 100 percent.

McIntosh suggested the Membership vote on each factor separately. MOTION by McIntosh and seconded by Maria Joseph, Moon Township Public Library, to accept the recommendations of the Rapid Response Team with regard to the re-calculation of distress using Commonwealth Libraries calculation of distressed communities but expanding that to the tenth percentile statewide which is done on a per capita basis. A roll call vote was taken. MOTION carried, 38 in favor, one not in favor, one abstention.

MOTION by McIntosh and seconded by Joseph to accept the Rapid Response Team recommendation to adopt a one-year phase-in period where 50 percent of RAD funds would be calculated on the 2009 formula and 50 percent would be calculated on the adopted formula. MOTION carried. A roll call vote was taken. 34 in favor, 5 not in favor, one abstention.

MOTION by McIntosh and seconded by Joseph to adopt the pro-rated Local Government Income calculation that the sum of all local income is calculated as a percentage of the whole and each library receives the same percentage of RAD funds. Discussion ensued regarding the process and consideration on whether local government be included as a factor in the formula. MOTION and seconded retracted by McIntosh and Joseph. MOTION amended by McIntosh and seconded by Joseph to recommend that the Local Government Income factor be included in the formula with local income defined as local government plus all local income. A roll call vote was taken. 28 in favor, 11 not in favor, one abstention. MOTION carried.

MOTION by Jeff Au, Braddock Carnegie Library, and seconded by Christy Fusco, Monroeville Public Library, to consider both the pro-rated and tiered methods of calculating Local Government Income. Counsel recommended the Membership first vote on whether to include both the pro-rated and tiered calculations as the basis on which local income is calculated prior to a vote on either option. MOTION by Joe Werthheimer, Mt. Lebanon Library, and seconded by Antoinette Ruta, Avalon Library, to include a third calculation

for Local Government Income based on equivalent mills. Vote was taken by written ballot. 18 in favor, 20 not in favor, 2 abstentions. MOTION to amend defeated.

The original MOTION by Jeff Au, Braddock Carnegie Library, and seconded by Christy Fusco, to consider both the pro-rated and tiered methods of calculating Local Government Income as the basis on which local income is calculated was then voted on. A roll call vote was taken. 31 in favor, 6 not in favor, one abstention. MOTION carried.

MOTION by Helen Palascak and seconded by Christine McIntosh to vote for either the pro-rated or tiered method of calculating Local Government Income weighted at 20 percent. A vote was taken by written ballot. 18 in favor, 18 not in favor, one abstention. MOTION resulted in a tie and was defeated.

MOTION by Bob Moll, Andrew Carnegie Free Library, and seconded by Dennis Luther, Brentwood Library, to calculate Local Government Income 10 percent on the pro-rated method and 10 percent on the tiered method. A roll call vote was taken. 27 in favor, 11 not in favor, one abstention. MOTION carried.

MOTION by Russ Walker, Whitehall Public Library, and seconded by Jeff Au, Braddock Carnegie Library, to approve a formula model that distributes the RAD funding based on the following factors and percentages:

- 15% - Base
- 20% - Population
- 5% - Distress
- 40% - Collection Usage
- 20% - Local Government Income, 10% calculated on the pro-rated basis and 10% calculated on the tiered basis

A roll call vote was taken. 34 in favor, 4 not in favor, one abstention. MOTION carried.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes – MOTION by Karen Rafalko, Penn Hills Library, and seconded by Kathy Robinson, Crafton Public Library, to accept the minutes of the July 29, 2009 and October 6, 2009 General Membership meetings. MOTION carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Debes, Secretary