**Administrators of Rural Urban Public Libraries of Ontario**

**December 2, 2016, 10:30am**

**Teleconference**

**DRAFT Minutes of the meeting**

**Present:**

Laura Molnar, Elgin (Chair)

Erin Kernohan-Berning, Haliburton (Acting Secretary)

Brian Masschaele, Elgin

Kelly Bernstein, Region of Waterloo

Lindsay Brock, Middlesex

Robin Greenall, Essex

Gayle Hall, Simcoe

Lisa Miettinen, Oxford

Melissa Legacy, Bruce

Heidi Wyma, Chatham-Kent

Stephen Abram, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

**Regrets:**

Laura Carter, Kingston Frontenac (Treasurer)

Catherine Coles, Lennox & Addington (Secretary)

Karen Franklin, Stormont Dundas & Glengarry

David Harvie, City of Kawartha Lakes

Bessie Sullivan, Haliburton

Meighan Wark, Huron

1. Welcome and call to order

Laura Molnar called the meeting to order at 10:30am.

2. Approval of agenda

**Moved by Robin Greenall / Seconded by Gayle Hall that the agenda be approved as presented – CARRIED.**

3. Approval of the minutes of September 22, 2016

**Moved by Brian Masschaele / Seconded by Lisa Miettinen that the minutes be approved as presented – CARRIED.**

4. New Business

4.1 Public Library Funding Review – Stephen Abram

Stephen Abram presented on version 5 of the discussion paper *Towards More Effective Public Libraries in the Context of the New Ontario Culture Strategy*. He explained the process and rationale behind the paper, work completed to date, and work to be completed. He discussed the lobbying efforts of he and Shelagh Patterson (OLA) to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport with respect to PLOG, connectivity, e-resources and CELA. Encouraged everyone to attend the Ministry consultation at OLA’s Super Conference in January. He said that the Ministry has expressed the importance of libraries speaking with one voice.

Robin Greenall asked about their working definition of rural with respect to impact on funding, and about provincial downloading with respect to communities and amalgamation. Stephen said the focus is on “fair and equitable”, increasing funding for rural but also increasing the funding envelope so urban don’t lose funding in the process.

Brian Masschaele expressed concern with point 1.10 “resulting in equitable distribution”, adding that PLOG was originally an equalization program. Suggested wording be incorporated to preserve that footing. Mentioned that ROMA was taking up a similar cause with the OMPF. Stephen agreed and will revise the wording. Also mentioned, with respect to municipal and library cooperation, OLA/FOPL/SOLS/OLSN will be having a booth at AMO.

Brian asked if the Ministry will be engaging in direct consultation outside of this process. Stephen answered there was no word yet, that the Ministry is overwhelmed with consultations, but that they are being pushed for a full consultation process with respect to libraries.

Laura Molnar clarified what Stephen is looking for from ARUPLO. Stephen explained this is a living document and as more organizations sign on will better reflect the voice of Ontario libraries. The final product will be released to everyone. Currently there is more wordsmithing being done. His next meeting is with AMPLO.

Stephen left the meeting at 11:00am.

Robin was happy to hear Stephen’s optimism but expressed caution. It will be difficult to come up with a formula to meet everyone’s needs, but by not joining in we lose a voice – fractured we aren’t effective at the Ministry level.

Laura suggested holding off signing until we are happier with the wording (point 1.10). Brian suggested a motion subject to the wording being changed.

**Moved by Robin Greenall / Seconded by Heidi Wyma that the discussion paper be endorsed pending revisions.**

5. Business arising from the minutes

5.1 Interest accelerator account

Deferred.

5.2 Youth Internship Program

Arising from the September 22, 2016 meeting, Laura Molnar sent a letter to the Hon. Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development regarding concerns with the Youth Internship Program. Acknowledgement from the Ministry was received but no reply as of yet.

Robin Greenall’s earlier letter when she was Chair was met with similar results.

The question was brought up as to whether other types of organizations were receiving grants under this program, and who they were applying through (eg/ direct to the program, or through an administrating body such as the OLA). **Robin will follow-up with the organizations in her area and report back.**

4.3 Rural libraries and discussion on ARUPLO’s mandate

Brian Masschaele made a presentation to ROMA at their board meeting on October 13, 2016. He has circulated a letter from ROMA indicating a willingness to work with ARUPLO. Issues of interest include PLOG and OLCF. Question of who does ARUPLO speak on behalf of. Brian explained that ARUPLO is not the voice for rural libraries, but the strongest voice. ROMA had some concern with northern libraries being represented. Brian explained the limitations of OLS North as an advocacy group. Brian believes that ROMA can be counted on as an advocate for PLOG with respect to the principle of equalization (as discussed with the Public Library Funding Review).

Robin Greenall indicated that Anne Marie Madziak (SOLS) can connect ARUPLO with some of the northern library advocacy groups.

5. Reports

5.1 ARUPLO Training Committee

Heidi Wyma presented on the ARUPLO Training Committee. Feedback from the most recent session was examined. Brandon Fratarcangeli (SOLS) is working on weaving competencies into the curriculum. Lindsay Brock and Karen Franklin are involved in this process. The 2017 session will be September 18 to 21 at Nottawasaga.

Robin Greenall indicated that because some of the feedback was that the training did not apply to some libraries, Laura Carter will likely ask for short bios from the staff attending so that the program can be tailored to their needs. Logistical challenges with the venue will also be addressed, with Brandon looking at more participatory learning to encourage social bonding.

**Robin will send out a survey to ARUPLO to assess what competencies each system is most interested in developing with their staff.**

5.2 Guidelines Committee

Kelly Bernstein indicated there was no news at this time. Still working with Beth and looking to 2017.

5.3 Treasurer’s Report

Circulated.

5.4 Ontario Public Library Guidelines Report

Kelly Bernstein reported on behalf of Meighan Wark that council continues to meet on a regular basis to move toward updating the most recent guidelines.

**Moved by Brian Masschaele / Seconded by Lindsay Brock to receive the reports as presented – CARRIED.**

6. Member News/ Roundtable

7. Next meeting date & location:

Joint meeting with AMPLO on March 3, 2017 at 10:30 am in Toronto. Location TBD.

**Laura Molnar will follow up with AMPLO to ensure room bookings are made to accommodate ARUPLO’s meeting needs. She will send out more details when available.**

8. Adjournment

**Adjournment- Moved by Heidi Wyma that the meeting be adjourned at 11:40 am– CARRIED.**