



STRUCTURE STUDY PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS A SUMMARY OF INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS

AUGUST 11, 2008, WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Advisory Committee Change:

- Is the biggest concern that of having the Advisory Committee change?
- If we are in danger of losing our meeting, perhaps directors should plan on attending those meetings more regularly
- Directors asked for a response to a number of questions they had at their last meeting – Advisory Committee Statement. When will this come?

Budget:

- The non-profit organizations I manage are in the process of restructuring their accounting procedures from how SELCO/SELS is currently doing theirs to a cleaner, more efficient method. Commend SELCO on making that change proactively.
- Has there been a push from the State Department to go in this direction?
- Discrepancy in the size of the two budgets
- Does not think SELCO has been doing anything illegal with SELS funding or vice versa

Organizational Structure:

- Have any other systems merged?
- Concern regarding changes that would be needed in state statute and what it would cost – will SELCO have to hire a lobbyist to accomplish this?
- Is the final decision going to be a Board decision? Determined in October?
- SELCO and SELS are confusing to the general public – has always been a problem, so from this perspective, the merger sounds like a good move
- Proposal looks good

Other Comments:

- Rushford Public Library has been kept informed – the board representative is comfortable with the merger and is not worried about minor details as it is felt the librarians will figure it out
- Would have to close the doors if my library did not belong to a regional library system and SELCO is one of the most progressive of the library systems
- A good place to be – cannot afford services on our own – patrons in small towns expect the same services as if they were in Minneapolis
- All of the libraries in my town serve the same mission and serve the save taxpayers–perhaps provided differently but still one mission
- Does not see a problem – my board is happy with this proposal
- Problem with 'one class of membership'
- Thank you to the Board and to SELCO staff for the long process
- We support SELCO 110%
- Regarding services to his library, there is no way they could provide the services SELCO provides, esp. database services – looking forward to SELCO providing even more
- Regarding zone meetings – does not like this concept for library meetings but perhaps the Board might try this