

GODORT Legislative Committee meeting, February 16, 2017

Present: Hallie Pritchett, Simon Healey, Marie Concannon, Bernadine Abbott, Hoduski, Amke (5/10/16) by the ALA

Here's what we've got:

COEGIS LEG will be on Saturday
(conflicts with State and Local Docs JF)

LEG 2 will be on Sunday.
(conflicts with the GODORT Education C

In 2018 there will be major changes to the sche

FIVE YEAR PLAN

Hallie review highlights of the 2

nd Legislative Committee meeting at Midwinter: They had discussed the GINI document, which is aspirational in nature. We need to make sure that whatever we do goes through the proper channels whether it be GODORT or ALA's legislative assembly. We need to keep in mind the uncertain state of politics this year. We need members on this committee. It should be a two-year commitment with half the members rotating on each year so that the Chair comes in as the second year of service. This will encourage continuity of multi-year projects. GODORT Steering and Legislative committees should attend each other's meetings. GPO wants to get the word out about their newest projects, perhaps the Legislative Committee could advocate for that. (We need a clear definition of the kind of advocacy our committee does.) Also, should our committee be focused on reaching certain goals? If we simply "raise awareness" have we fulfilled our responsibility? There is a difference between promoting awareness and actual advocacy. GODORT members may be too close to some problems to see them clearly, but having input from non GODORT can help a lot. As always, we should maintain two-way communication with GPO and thinking how we can advocate for them.

Hallie reiterated that getting more members for this committee is essential. Eight or ten people might be about right, especially if our intent is to have broad representation from a wide variety of library types. Some legislative advocacy is library type-specific. In order to keep up on all emerging issues, we'd need to have committee membership that is not clustering around one library type.

Announcement: Jessica McGilvray is leaving the ALA Washington office. Hallie still needs someone from that office to take to our committee at ALA annual.

BILL DISCUSSION

S.103- Local Zoning Decisions Protection Act of 2017
SEC. 3. Prohibition on use of Federal funds.

“..Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Federal funds may be used to design, build, maintain, utilize, or provide access to a Federal database of geospatial information on community racial disparities or disparities in access to affordable housing.

This was put in place during Obama administration. It was to result in an online interactive mapping tool in order to facilitate better decision making. Yet, Section 3 of the bill ~~abolishes~~ it so broad that no federal agency would ever be able to gather data on race or racial disparities ~~not even the~~ Census Bureau. EMA might need such a tool for disaster relief analysis and the USDA might use it in reporting on food deserts. GODORT and MAGIRT cannot ~~write~~ on ALA's behalf, but we can provide examples to ALA's Washington office of what effect we think this bill would have. MAGIRT has already issued a call for examples from among their own members with deadline of March 1 or 3. After consulting with GODORT Steering, Hallie will put out a similar call on GOVDOCS. Jessica McGilvray mentioned that ALA's Washington office is aware of bill.

On a similar topic, it is rumored that the Census might start asking questions about people's migration status. Any legislation of this sort would be in our committee's purview, so keep your eyes and ears open.

PRESERVATION RESOLUTION

Text:

..Therefore be it resolved that:

The American Library Association urges the U. S. Congress to fund preservation of Federal government publications housed in federal depository libraries; and

The American Library Association urges the U. S. Congress to authorize the U. S. Government

Bernadine Abbott Hoduski comments: "One change could be to ask for pilot projects rather than a complete program we did that with the electronic projects that led to GPO Access Adapters would have to submit proposals for projects as they do for all grants. We are having the programs at annual to educate librarians about the issue and how to do. GPO said they do not want to receive gift