

Quick-&-Dirty Meeting Summary
Texas Nonprofit Public Libraries Group First Meeting May 20, 2015

Participants & cities of libraries represented: Brandi (Mabank), Juanita (Gunter), Michelle (Chico), Nancy (West), Rachel (Rhome), Tomi (Harper), Vikijane (Palacios), Virginia (Alto), Vicki (Eagle Lake) + dona & Judy as meeting support (Participants came from 6 different regions of the state.)

Introductions

Why this group is being formed

Point of clarification: This group is intended for communication specifically related to nonprofit-operated public libraries in Texas, without limits by geographic type nor population size. Topics will be discussed in relation to the needs and issues of libraries run by nonprofit organizations.

How frequently to meet (online): reps of 7 of the 9 PLs indicated a preference for monthly meetings. In response to the idea of quarterly in-person meetings, West – which appears to be centrally located, based on locations of libraries in the current roster – indicated “We’d be happy to host a face-to-face meeting if the group decides to do that. We have a conference room that will accommodate at least 35-40 people. [West’s good food got an added vote of approval.] It was noted that the Small Country Library Consortium (17 libraries) meets in person once a quarter. This fact would need to be considered when scheduling this group’s in-person meetings so that dates don’t collide and/or require travel twice within a short period of time.

Appropriate time length for these online meetings: 4 of the 9 library reps indicated a preference for at least 1 hour; some of those indicated up to 1.5 hours

Question: How TSLAC determines a library’s assigned population – See <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/pubs/arsma/index.html>. A to-be-corrected blog post at <http://elephantinthelibrary.com/assigned-county-population-may-be-not-set-in-stone/> quotes the actual rule that is used. [The post should be corrected/updated by the middle of next week at the latest.]

Requested topics for future meetings: See the list provided to participants in advance. Update: One more library has requested funding discussion.

Suggested topics for next month’s meeting: (1) Funding Summer Reading Club activities (2) Review major non-profit guidelines and major misconceptions/mistakes. Michelle will develop a discussion starter for the first topic; dona will develop one for the second topic. (Please email any questions/requests/input for either topic to the appropriate person ASAP.)

Meeting ended at 2:20 p.m.