Intellectual Freedom Advisory Panel Meeting
Friday, February 3, 12:30 pm
Bacchus of Lebanon, Bethesda

Present: Mou Chakraborty, Mark de Jong, Andrea Dowling, Michael English, Steve LaBash, Monica McAbee, Ann Reed, Margie Rhoden, Mary Somers (chair), Dianne Whitaker

Minutes of December 2011 were approved.

Preconference planning
One form still needed to send in. The presenters from SLRC (Pratt) declined to be recorded. Mary will be the contact person for the program and will be responsible for the program packet. She can do introductions unless someone else wants to.

MLA Social Media Policy draft
We examined the draft of the Social Media Policy and approved it as is. IFAP will be grandfathered in for our Facebook page. Kate Monagan will be added as an administrator.

IF Manual
Monica and Mary have not gotten very far on identifying areas to update. Monica volunteered to keep at it!

New business
• Dianne reported on ALA Midwinter’s IF activities. Angela Maycock did a presentation on privacy issues involving library users and corporations like Amazon. Other hot issues were SOPA and the law restricting ethnic studies in Tucson AZ.
• Mary noted that ALA’s IF Committee spent most of Midwinter crafting a statement about the Tucson issue.
• There was no Conable Award for 2011. The few submissions were not deemed suitable. ALA would like to see many more submissions next time.
• Mark reported on SOPA/PIPA: it’s dead, at least in its present form. Bits of it may rise again in other legislation. One improved version is the Online Protection and ENforcement of Digital Trade (“OPEN”) Act.
• We discussed the concept of piracy as a spur to innovation and a channel for exposing potential consumers to new works.

Discussion
• Mary reviewed the Tucson situation, and we touched on Google’s new practice of tracking customers’ Internet use across online services. (Facebook does this as well.)

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 4 at Pusser’s Caribbean Grille in Annapolis:
http://pussersusa.com/locations/annapolis-restaurant

Monica McAbee