Due to lack of a quorum, this is a record of the informal discussion which was held instead of a commission meeting.

Chair Dean Smith invited everyone to introduce themselves and then he welcomed Eli Guinnee, the new State Librarian.

State Library Report
State Librarian Guinnee proceeded with a review of the report presented to the Commission. He began with broadband which is a priority for NM libraries and their communities. He described the pilot project the State Library is engaged in with three state agencies, which will involve 10 to 14 libraries.

HB 207/ Chapter 25 discussion ensued. Teresa Ortiz spoke about her role in the broadband initiative and leveraging erase funding which is lucrative. She also spoke about the send of urgency for this effort. Work progresses on getting Chapter 25 funded in the amount of $500,000.

Joy Poole gave an update on the three year Pueblo Connect project.

Eli Guinnee gave an update on Libraries as Launchpads. He outlined the grant funding received thus far, explained what the program includes and his hopes for future expansion.

He then spoke about the three year IMLS funded Rural Library Service and Social Well Being research project. He is the lead researcher on the project. IMLS designates which libraries are rural.

Eli Guinnee then gave an update on the current vacancy situation at the State Library and Joy Poole spoke about the bureaucratic challenges posed by state government recruitment.

Next Shel Neymar’s spoke about the rural libraries endowment legislation effort.
Dean Smith announced that the LSSI company has put in a bid to take over the Farmington Public Library operations. Eli Guinnee has spoken with the library director. He is familiar with the company and their practices.

Library Legislative Day is February 8, 2019. Strategic planning and preparation is underway for HB 207 / Chapter 25 funding; Go Bonds; the NM Rural Library endowment initiative; and State Grants in Aid for which the DCA Secretary has recommended additional funding in the amount of $250,000.

The next meeting will be February 7, 2019 at the State Library, tentatively at 10:00 in the morning.