LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING II, JUNE 25, 2017

PRESENT: Hallie Pritchett (chair), Simon Healey, Bill Sudduth, Kate Tallman, Frank Lester, , Marie Concannon (recorder), Stephen Woods, Sandra MacAninch, Richard Yarnell, Bernadine Abbott Hoduski, Steven Carfan, Samantha Hagar, Kay Cassell, Sinai Wood, Brian Fuller.

Agenda: to go over the results of the survey conducted prior to ALA Annual.

Announcements:
Threat to close USGS libraries, defunding. MAGIRT will be writing a letter of support for USGS libraries and GODORT Legislative could sign on as well. This is moving very quickly.

Gavin Baker is the new contact at the ALA Washington Office, replacing Jessica McGilvray. Yesterday's COL
Library Advocacy: Current Challenges and Resources". Hallie asks him to scan and send it to us.

Hallie says that the committee has been discussing its five year plan, and spoke about John Shuler's aspirational document. We have used it as a launch pad to consider the future of the committee. We sent our survey to GOVDOC-L and to REGIONAL-L for responses. Hallie passed out the results; there were 99 respondents. Hallie asked participants in today's meeting to identify common themes in the responses.

QUESTION #2: WHAT ROLE SHOULD GODORT PLAY WITH REGARD TO ADVOCACY FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION?

Common themes: access, advocacy, partnering with Washington Office. People think the committee is anemic with regard to advocacy, to inform members of advocacy and provide a collective voice. Respondents are looking to this committee to provide leadership with advocacy. Yet, with leaders you need followers, you need people to actually do the work, like to send a letter to every member of Congress. GODORT committees besides our own could do a lot more education and advocacy. Are our audience librarians, or do we want to provide advocacy leadership for the generalists (general public?) We all agree - GODORT LEG should be

information, danger to funding the publication of government information (a budget issue), making government information in formats that are easy for the public to use, GPO funding, free access.