

MINUTES
MORE Directors Council
Friday, March 18, 2016

Present/Attending: Christina Jones (AL), James Nalen (AM), Leslie LaRose (AU), Rebecca Dixen (BA), Sue Queiser (BN), Kathy Larson (BB), Ginny Julson (BO), Kathy Voss (BR), Paula Stanton (CA), Joe Niese (CF), Cricket LaFond (CL), Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt (CO), Rob Ankarlo (CU), Shelly Collins Fuerbringer (EC), Tiffany Meyer (EL), John Thompson (IFLS), Hollis Helmecki (LA), Kim Hennings (NR), Rebecca Smith (PH), Jacquie Pooler (PL), Jane Enright (PR), Katherine Elchert (RL), Nancy Miller (RF), Krissa Coleman (RO), Cathy LeFevre (SA), Ginny Scheiderer (SO), Rebecca Schmitt (SV), Sarah Adams (SC), Lori Stanek (ST), Allison Lutz (TL), Karen Furo-Bonnstetter (WO).

Proxies: James Nalen for Linda Heimstead (BL) and Lynne Schauls (CE); Susan Queiser for Dawn Ayers (CM); Cricket LaFond for Barbara Krueger (DP); Leslie LaRose for Alyson Jones (FC); Rebecca Dixen for Michelle Johnson (HA), Sarah Adams for Kelly McBride (OS).

Also Present: Joanne Gardner, IFLS Administrative Associate/Recorder.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Joe Niese called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Introductions were made.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM:

James Nalen confirmed that a quorum was established.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW:

Compliance with open meeting law was verified.

MODIFY/APPROVE AGENDA:

Motion to approve the agenda by Miller (RF); Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Dixen noted her name was spelled incorrectly in the minutes.

Motion to approve the amended minutes from the November 20, 2015 meeting by Thompson (IFLS); seconded by Jones ((AL). Motion carried.

MORE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

There were no questions on the January-December 2015 or January-February 2016 Financial Reports.

Motion to approve the financial reports by Adams (SC); seconded by Miller (RF). Motion carried.

IFLS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The IFLS parking lot is due for a resurface. It is hoped the budget will allow for some additional parking stalls to be added. Resurfacing the lot shouldn't pose a problem for libraries. If the office needs to close, staff will be available via email and by phone. Staff may also plan for learning engagement activity.

Thompson talked about the System Redesign project. Work groups have started forming. Some IFLS staff and member library staff are volunteers on the work groups for WILS.

The return of library materials legislation has passed making it permissible for libraries to use a collection or law enforcement agency. This is not mandatory for libraries and will be a local library decision. Another piece of legislation that is awaiting the Governor's signature deals with tribal libraries being members of library systems. Tribal libraries provide resources to tribal member's offsite. This legislation will have some impact on electronic and online resources. If the legislation is signed, it is possible for individual libraries to use products like Freegal and be within the statutes requirement.

Thompson has been helping numerous libraries in helping to hire new directors.

ISSUES/REPORTS FROM MORE COMMITTEES:

Discovery Product Committee:

The MORE Discovery Product report was sent out. The charge to the committee is to consider options for the MORE catalog interface. The committee will be meeting again soon. The committee hopes have some demos to review.

Loan Rules Subcommittee:

Katherine Elchert (RL) is chairing the Loan Rules Subcommittee which came out of the Shared Resources Committee. Each library sets their own loan terms. Should the committee be investigating lending versus owning library rules? The library rules used within the system are owning library.

The subcommittee will meet on April 19th to discuss how feasible switching to lending library rules would be for MORE. The subcommittee will bring the outcome back to MORE Directors Council for discussion. Anyone interested in joining the subcommittee should contact Elchert.

NEW BUSINESS:

QUESTION AND ANSWER DISCUSSION FORUM ON LIBRARY TOPICS:

Helmeci raised concern with hosting baby lap-sit programs and having sufficient copies of board books for 10 children. Board books tend to be the biggest issue as most libraries won't send out big books. There was also some concern with kits and bags that do not circulate. Helmeci thought that if libraries are going to purchase materials, they should make them available for other libraries to use. Librarians responded to Helmeci's concerns that there are various reasons materials are not readily available to circulate and include: Puzzles would be hard to send and the often haphazard way large picture books are often stored. Suggestions to Helmeci included having the Friends purchase the picture books; don't provide copies of the book to each participant; and include a note or email to libraries requesting that they override the policy to check out these items.

There were a few questions related to delivery and courier services. Presorting courier items is not mandatory. The only reason libraries do some presort is when they have enough to fill a bin for an individual library. La Fond noted that their courier driver spoke against the presorting. Thompson noted that if libraries have issues with the courier drivers/courier service, they should contact Maureen Welch immediately to address the issue.

Enright and other libraries raised concern about the fluctuation in the schedule for delivery. They would like a schedule they can count on. Maureen Welch joined the discussion. Welch noted that the courier service was working on the flow of the routes and stated that there would be no more than a 45 minute time difference for delivery. The drivers do not realize that routes are set up the way they are. All changes in delivery routes and times must go through Welch.

Hennings announced that the annual report will be changing how electronic transactions are entered; such as Freegal. Thompson noted that right now electronic usage has a set loan period. Changing of some definition is occurring at the federal level.

Queiser noted that magazines made available through OverDrive have been getting quite a bit of use. Queiser questioned that if OverDrive ends in September, will there be a lapse of magazines? It was noted that Overdrive provided us a good deal and no systems paid for the trial. We need to decide who to pay in the future and this is a possible budget issue coming through. Thompson noted that mid-year, funds could be taken from the contingency budget to continue if needed. The question would be MORE or IFLS budget. Welch added that the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) committee is looking at a budget for a buying pool.

Dixen raised an issue that when libraries decide to reduce or eliminate fines, it has an impact on the neighboring libraries. Dixen felt families would choose which library to go to based on the fine structure of the library. It was noted that if libraries aren't fining, they should not be collecting fines. La Fond mentioned that she displays signs at the library showing what the collected fine money goes towards. It makes it more likely that patrons pay their fines without much complaint. Various library directors discussed that often fines add to their budget and they are dependent on that money. Even with that, libraries are open to forgiving fines. Elchert noted that circulation at Rice Lake has not gone up with the change to no fines. Smith added that charging or not charging fines has little impact on when and if things come back. Fines are not making materials come back on time. Helmecki thought for consistency that all libraries should adhere to the same fine threshold. Adams expressed that it is awful that libraries need the fine money to operate. Elchert noted that this entire issue has been referred to the Loan Rule Committee. Furo-Bonnstetter felt consistency among the libraries would be easier for the patrons. It was noted that it would be easier if the libraries could say MORE is recommending a consistent fine structure which libraries could bring to their boards.

It was noted that the rule of attending "x" number of meetings per year is to have a sense of the consortium you belong in.

Stark inquired if any libraries and/or communities were conducting salary surveys. La Fond responded that Polk County is. Miller noted that the City of River Falls is doing one this year. Enright stated Prescott wants to just compare the library position to other library positions in Wisconsin rather than other positions within the city. Stanton stated that Stanley is doing one in preparation for next year's budget.

The Council discussed reporting on damaged materials. Discussion included how and when to note the line of damage; damage to old materials that are still circulating without damage noted; writing noted damages because damage never originally noted; is damage from patron or courier; and what happens when you don't see damage, but are later billed for it.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Dixen announced that Joe Niese from Chippewa Falls will be coming to Baldwin on Tuesday. He has also been at Clear Lake.

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.

Joanne Gardner, Recorder.