

MINUTES
MORE Directors Council
Friday, November 20, 2020

Present/Attending: Alyson Jones (AL), Amy Stormberg (AM), Leslie LaRose (AU), Rebecca Dixen (BA), Linda Heimstead (BL), Lisa Kuebli (BN), Megan Taylor (BB), Ginny Julson (BO), Kathryn Stempf (BR), Samma Johnson (CA), Leslie Peterson (CE), Carol Burnham (CH), Joe Niese (CF), Cricket LaFond (CL), Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt (CO), Barbara Krueger (DP), Leann French (DR), Pamela Westby (EC), Tiffany Meyer (EL), Jenna Beyer (EW), Rozanne Traczek (FA), Charlene Conradi (FC), Kris Surbaugh (FR), Katie Schneider (GC), Michelle Johnson (HA), M. Page/S. Tougas (HU), John Thompson (IF), Hollis Helmecci (LA), Jill Glover (LU), Ted Stark (ME), Bonnie Carl (MI), Mary Hebda (OG), Shelby Friendshuh (OS), Deb Hyde (PF), Christy Rundquist (PE), Rebecca Puhl (PH), Kayla Campbell (PC), Carissa Langer (PR), Katherine Elchert (RL), Tanya Misselt (RF), B. Fahrenkamp/M. Blumer (RO), Shelly Rae (SA), Kristina Kelley-Johnson (SO), Su Leslie (SC), Elizabeth Miniatt (ST), Allison Lutz (TL), Karen Furo-Bonnstetter (WO).

Proxy: Allison Lutz for Rob Ankarlo (CU), John Thompson for Rebecca Dodge (SV).

Also Present: Lori Roholt, Kathy Setter, Bridget Krejci, Deb Faulhaber, Maureen Welch, Joanne Gardner.

Absent: Dawn Ayers (CM), Jennifer Rickard (NR).

CALL TO ORDER:

Thompson (IF) called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM:

Puhl (PH) established a quorum by roll call.

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE
WITH OPEN MEETING LAW:**

Compliance with open meeting law was confirmed.

AGENDA:

Elchert (RL) moved to approve the agenda. Helmecci (LA) seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) moved to approve the minutes dated September 18, 2020. Meyer (EL) seconded. Motion carried.

Johnson (CA) noted a correction on page 2 that there was 1 webinar, not 3, on virtual programming.

Rozanne Traczek (FA) was welcomed to the meeting today. Fairchild is an official member of MORE.

MORE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Fairchild Public Library signed the MORE Participation Agreement; this launches their membership. They are in the process of getting items added and it will be a while before they are live.

There have been discussions with Durand Community Library about joining MORE. LSTA funds are available for public libraries in Wisconsin that are not members of an ILS to join. Durand is a combined school/public library. This has been a stumbling block for joining MORE. The school is not interested; but the public library board decided to try and forge ahead by splitting out the collection. The public would have access to just the public materials while the students would have access to the school and public materials. The checkout systems would be separate.

We are still on track to start a centralized cataloging service at the beginning of the year. Several libraries have met with Kathy Setter and Bridget Krejci.

As noted in the TWAM (This Week at MORE) newsletter, the 2020 and 2021 MORE budget include funds for a mobile app. There are a couple of newly available options for MORE to explore. Any directors or staff interested in serving on this workgroup should complete the form included in TWAM.

TWAM includes year-end projects, forms, and deadlines. Year-end projects include closed dates, volunteering for a committee, and year-end data cleanup.

MORE has been using a klutzy; but free system for text messaging. This system seems to be failing. Moving forward, we will need to find a new solution or discontinue the text option.

IFLS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Thompson noted that he will try to take off next week. He will check email occasionally.

The IFLS Long Range Plan was submitted to the State. If the state signs off on it, the first monies will be received by late November/early December for 2021. The state budget is stable at this point for 2021.

IFLS staff are continuing to either work from home, work at the office, or a mix of the two. Thompson asked libraries to please be patient if it takes a littler longer to get back

to you. Staff have been busy and respond as soon as we can. Typically, someone is at the office most of the time. The office is open from 9 am until noon for deliveries.

ISSUES/REPORTS FROM MORE COMMITTEES:

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) noted the MORE Operations topic of discussion is a suggested increase in holds.

LIBRARY SHARING OF NEWS AND INFORMATION:

Misselt (RF) noted that the automated material handling system is working great. The library is working hard on strategic planning. The library held a job fair a couple weeks ago in the parking lot and it went well. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) spoke with patrons. The library is excited to offer Tumble Math.

French (DR) noted that the local newspaper agreed to give space every week to highlight library news provided by Dresser, Osceola, and St. Croix Falls. Newspaper is a good way to reach those who do not use social media or the internet.

Leslie (SC) noted that a couple trustees attended the library board trustees training and thought they were well done.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) noted that the Operations Committee recommendation is to have the checkout limit increased to 200 and the hold limit increased to 100. It affects a small number of patrons and there is no reason not to approve the recommendation.

Elchert (RL) made the motion to increase checkout limit to 200 and the hold limit to 100. Rae (SA) seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote (both by 51% of libraries present and 51% of votes present).

Westby (EC) asked someone from MORE Operations to explain and provide a compelling reason for the increases. Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) noted that home school situations are one that bumps into the limits as they are. There are several families, and they use one card. Rundquist (PE) stated it is a reaction to the delays when materials were being held 96 hours and the courier was not running completely.

Elchert (RL) has worked the past few weeks at the circulation desk. There are several families that hit the 100-checkout limit. Especially with most libraries not being open.

Stark (ME) was having trouble being enthusiastic about increasing both the checkout and hold limits. Menomonie circulation staff were not enthusiastic about it either. Some patrons are already in trouble on accounts and Stark questioned why we would add on to that. Elchert (RL) replied that it is not the library's responsibility to worry if people can be trusted.

Glover (LU) noted that it may be easier for libraries that wish to increase limits, to override the limits instead of increasing them.

Friendshuh (OS) inquired if this was a temporary or permanent change to the limits. Roholt responded that the decision would be up to the group.

Roholt noted a chat received from Miniatt (ST). MORE approved institution card guidelines. It is up to individual libraries whether and how to issue institution cards following local policy. Institution cards already have higher limits. Could the local policy state institution cards could be issued to homeschool families?

Roholt noted that per the MORE bylaws, the change would take effect 30 days from the decision. This is something not specifically spelled out in the MORE policy. Roholt's inclination is to follow the bylaws and make changes after the 30 days.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The Executive Committee met and brought forward a recommendation for Officers for 2021. These include Shelly Rae (SC) as Chair, Katherine Elchert (RL) as Vice-Chair, Johnson (CA) as Secretary, and Westby (EC) as Member-at-Large.

Thompson entertained nominations from the floor for themselves or others. None were forthcoming.

Those that served on the Executive Committee in 2020 were thanked for their time to serve.

Motion made by Helmecci (LA) to unanimously approve the slate of officers for 2021. Krueger (DP) seconded. Motion carried.

Elected officers will begin their term immediately following the adjournment of today's meeting.

COVID UPDATES:

The Governor has extended the mask order. The case is still pending if this is a legal order.

LaFond (CL) appreciates that libraries keep updating the form Reb Kilde has created.

Jones (AL) noted that the Altoona School District has no plans to close formally. The quantity of those quarantining is growing and is more concerning for adequate coverage to remain open. Jones is happy with the system of library material pickup by patrons.

Burnham (CH) feels the pain and concern we are all feeling. Burnham finds something each day to be grateful for.

Helmecci (LA) staff are split into teams of two for pickups. That way if someone is exposed, you only lose two at a time. They are undecided about doing copies or allowing computer time.

Westby was asked if she would like to share the decision to close the library in Eau Claire. Westby (EC) stated that a staff member tested positive so therefore they temporarily closed. As protocol, staff stay six feet apart and are masked. Westby was confident and good about the procedures and processes being used. They also staggered times in the building. A member of staff was not exposed in the library, but at home from a spouse. That staff member had been in the building a day before being tested. This staff member had met with several staff members individually. Through the process of trying to determine whether to stay open or close, it was revealed that someone tested positive. It was discovered that this person may have been symptomatic the day before. The same person exposed to another staff with the mask below the nose and was also coughing. The reality is that no one intends to do anything devious or harmful. With a staff mask being pulled down and making someone uncomfortable, customers refusing to wear a mask at pickup and coming close to staff, the library was left with a lot of questions. An urgent management meeting was held to consider the close of browsing and computers. The management team decided to close the library for a period. With the numbers criteria that Thompson provided with hospitalization rates, surge in numbers for Eau Claire, UW-Eau Claire going virtual, Westby (EC) feels that was the right decision. It allowed the library management team to rethink the holds pickup and come back with a better and stronger plan.

Thompson reminded directors that if they are feeling overwhelmed, to feel free to reach out to IFLS staff. Do not hesitate to call, even if just to talk. IFLS is here for you. Thompson wants all to stay healthy and safe. We will get through this the best we can. Be sure to take care of yourself and have a happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURN:

Westby (EC) moved to adjourn at 11:19 am. Hebda (OG) seconded. Motion carried.

Joanne Gardner, Recorder