

MINUTES
MORE Directors Council
Friday, March 15, 2024

Present/Attending: Arin Wilken (AL), Heather Wiarda (AM), Rita Magno (BA), Linda Heimstead (BL), Amanda Feldt-Smith (BN), Stacey Brown (BB), Kallie Anderson (BO), Kathryn Stempf (BR), Samma Johnson (CA), Dawn Ayers (CM), Joe Niese (CF), Vince Mussehl (CV), Cricket LaFond (CL), Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt (CO), Denise Korenuk (CN), Rob Ankarlo (CU), Barbara Krueger (DP), Lori Gilles (DU), Tiffany Meyer (EL), Nick Andrews (EW), Charlene Conradi (FC), Rochel Karlson (GC), Shelley Tougas (HU), John Thompson (IF), Jill Glover (LU), Joleen Sterk (ME), Bonnie Carl (MI), Monica LaVold (NR), Anne Miller (OS), Christy Rundquist (PE), Rebecca Puhl (PH), Jenna Beyer (PL), Carissa Langer (PR), Rachel Thomas (RL), Tanya Misselt (RF), Tori Schoess (RO), Shelly Rae (SA), Kristina Kelley-Johnson (SO), Katie Schneider (SV), Su Leslie (SC), Elizabeth Miniatt (ST), Allison Lutz (TL), Karen Furo-Bonnstetter (WO).

Proxy: Amanda Feldt-Smith for Emily Resendiz (CH), Su Leslie for Leann French (DR), Rita Magno for Michelle Johnson (HA).

Also Present: Lori Roholt, Bridget Krejci, Kathy Setter, Joanne Gardner, Katelyn Noack, Cecelia Cole.

Absent: Leslie LaRose (AU), Anna Griffin (CE), Nancy Kerr (EC), Rozanne Traczek (FA), Amanda Blackmon (FR), Christinna Swearingen (LA), Mary Hebda (OG), Deb Hyde (PF).

CALL TO ORDER:

Lutz (TL) called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM:

Sterk (ME) established a quorum was present by roll call vote.

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

Certification of compliance with open meeting law was confirmed.

AGENDA:

Runquist (PE) moved to approve the agenda. LaVold (NR) seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Meyer (EL) moved to approve the minutes dated November 17, 2023. Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) seconded. Motion carried.

LIBRARY NEWS:

Library directors shared local news, events, and information on their libraries.

MORE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) reported that the MORE Operations Committee met. They discussed a phone number lookup. There is a cost associated with that. The committee also discussed notes on Item records, packaging of materials policy, and the Library of Things. Minutes are posted online.

Krejci noted that the MORE Operations Committee met and discussed the task of creating a uniform practice to help patrons identify what items need to be picked up and returned to owning library. They also discussed the ongoing cleanup and updating local headings for foreign television programs. Minutes are posted online.

MORE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Roholt provided a big-picture overview on MORE circulation activity from 2023 compared to 2022. Checkouts, renewals, and holds placed in 2023 were up from 2022 system wide. Checkouts on OverDrive/Libby were also up in 2023.

Hawkins is planning to join MORE in July. This is the last public library within IFLS to join MORE. Kathy Setter and Barbara Krueger have been working hard to get their holdings added to MORE.

The Innovative Users Group (IUG) Conference will be held in a couple of weeks. Kathy Setter, Bridget Krejci, and Martha Spangler (AL) will be attending the conference in Detroit. Reports will be forthcoming after attending.

Roholt noted that a few years ago, the MORE Directors Council entered into a multi-year agreement with Sierra. Roholt is working with the sales representative for what is next with the contract. MORE will need to do a Sierra update in the next couple of months which would include an updated email notification product. It is hoped this is an effective way to freshen up the email notices and add customization for libraries as well.

Magno (BA) inquired about the ability to put in our suggestions on the Innovative products. Roholt noted that Innovative does gather information for features desired by users in their products. The ideas are reviewed and put in our votes. Libraries can become IUG members and have their own votes.

IFLS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Thompson noted that IFLS received all member library annual reports, and they were submitted on time with the Division for Libraries and Technology (DLT). DLT does a review and generally sends 5-6 questions to IFLS. Thompson can usually answer them. If they cannot, Thompson will reach out to the member library.

IFLS is now beginning the audit process for 2023 and an audit report will be presented at the May IFLS Board of Trustees meeting. Beginning in June, IFLS will begin planning for 2024 budget revisions and a preliminary 2025 budget. IFLS will reach out to public libraries for feedback on priorities and services.

MORE'S SHARED ELECTRONIC CONTENT FOR THE 2025 BUDGET:

Roholt noted that MORE's shared electronic content for the 2025 budget was prompted by Magno (BA). The MORE Directors Council meeting provides a good opportunity for a larger discussion of shared electronic content among libraries.

Roholt noted that MORE is edging into the budget season with the final MORE budget approval in July. It is time to think about changes to incorporate into the budget so MORE staff can gather information and quotes. As members have ideas, they can be sent to Roholt. The Maintenance section of the budget covers the products and services. The Materials/Content section has contained different things over the years. The past few years, the cost for two products for electronic content have been included. OverDrive and OverDrive Advantage. They offer ebooks, e-audiobooks, and digital magazines. MORE also offers Flipster to provide magazine subscriptions not included in OverDrive. Other electronic products can be added to the MORE budget.

Libraries should keep in mind that not all electronic content fits into electronic content as it is considered more of a database resource. Additionally, Language learning does not really fit into the MORE budget as it is not a discreet piece of media. It might be a candidate for a group purchase or individual subscription outside of the MORE budget.

Pay-per-use resources are best left for libraries and do not provide a great benefit to consortia purchase. Usage of these can vary among libraries and therefore does not align with the MORE cost-sharing formula.

Sterk (ME) inquired about shared access to newspapers as print newspaper publications are declining. Cole noted there has been some discussion at the state level about the New York Times. WiLS is in talks about a possible shared subscription. Cole is hoping to have electronic resources need survey to identify what subscriptions we already have and ideas for subscriptions that may or may not be paid by MORE funds.

LaVold (NR) inquired about having a general discussion on the OverDrive Collection on how purchases are decided, wait times, and what alternatives to look at. LaVold (NR) would like to provide some good talking points for patrons on the basic background of why we purchase what we do and how that can impact the wait times. Cole replied that there is a lot going on at the back end of OverDrive and it can be a challenge to explain this to patrons. There are several reasons for long wait times. The state digital collection is enormous, and patrons statewide are competing for one large collection. Then there are selectors at the system levels for OverDrive Advantage level. A complicating factor is that publishers created licensing models for these materials where metered licenses by time or checkouts are used instead of being perpetual. The move to licensing models is that they need to be continuously renewed and selected.

User surveys have been done in the past to gain knowledge of how patrons feel about the digital collection. Although some express frustration with wait times, there is an equal number of patrons who are willing to wait. It can be difficult to explain to patrons as they are not aware of how the licensing models work. MORE is doing the best we can with the funds we have and is always open to other ideas. If a patron or board member is struggling to grasp it, Cole would be happy to chat with them.

Roholt asked for a “raise of hands” in Zoom for those who use Hoopla and also Kanopy.

Ideas for shared electronic content can be sent to Roholt and Cole.

ADJOURN:

Lutz (TL) moved to adjourn at 11:21 am.

Joanne Gardner, Recorder