

MINUTES
MORE Directors Council
Friday, July 19, 2024

Present/Attending: Oliva Moris (AL), Heather Wiarda (AM), Leslie LaRose (AU), Rita Magno (BA), Linda Heimstead (BL), Sue Christianson (BN), Stacey Brown (BB), Kallie Anderson (BO), Kathryn Stempf (BR), Samma Johnson (CA), Anna Griffin (CE), Emily Resendiz (CH), Joe Niese (CF), Cricket LaFond (CL) Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt (CO), Denise Korenuk (CN), Barbara Krueger (DP), Leann French (DR), Lori Gilles (DU), Nancy Kerr (EC), Tiffany Meyer (EL), Nick Andrews (EW), Shelley Tougas (HU), John Thompson (IF), Christinna Swearingen (LA), Joleen Sterk (ME), Bonnie Carl (MI), Amy Abele (OG), Anne Miller (OS), Deb Hyde (PF), Rebecca Puhl (PH), Jenna Beyer (PL), Rachel Thomas (RL), Tanya Misselt (RF), Tori Schoess (RO), Shelly Rae (SA), Katie Schneider (SV), Su Leslie (SC), Elizabeth Miniatt (ST), Allison Lutz (TL), Karen Furo-Bonnstetter (WO).

Proxy: Emily Resendiz for Dawn Ayers (CM), John Thompson for Kati Morley (CV), Rachel Thomas for Rob Ankarlo (CU), Barbara Krueger for Rozanne Traczek (FA), Katie Schneider for Charlene Conradi (FC), Leann French for Amanda Blackmon (FR); Barbara Krueger for Rochel Karlson (GC), Barbara Kreuger for Jennifer Mabie (HW), Joleen Sterk for Monica LaVold (NR), Karen Furo-Bonnstetter for Christy Rundquist (PE), Tiffany Meyer for Carissa Langer (PR), Tori Schoess for Kristina Kelley-Johnson (SO).

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

Absent: Michelle Johnson (HA), Jill Glover (LU).

CALL TO ORDER:

Lutz (TL) called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM:

Roholt 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:

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) moved to approve the agenda. Krueger (DP) seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Sterk (ME) moved to approve the minutes dated May 17, 2024. Kerr (EC) seconded. Motion carried.

MORE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) noted that the Resource Sharing Collection Development (RSCD) committee met and made budget recommendations. They are recommending an increase in the OverDrive Advantage amount to address high-demand items. They are also sprucing up the MORE catalog homepage. They will remove music and audio from the "Popular from Library" header as there have not been a lot of holds.

Roholt noted that the Bibliographics committee met, and the minutes are posted. The newly hired Technical Services Manager Lynn Gates was introduced. The committee discussed local notes, bibliographic records, and received a Marcive authority update.

MORE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Hawkins is now officially a MORE member library. Project Manager Kathy Setter coordinated this project and has been involved with adding all of MORE's new member libraries throughout the consortium's nearly 25-year history.

A few volunteer libraries are getting set up to try out the updated email circulation notices from Sierra using a platform called LX Starter. It is hoped by this Fall the service will be extended beyond the testing libraries.

In late July, MORE's Cataloging and Bibliographic Services (CABS) team will add a part-time cataloger, Riley Richards, who also works in LEPMPL's reference department. So far this year, IFLS and cataloging partner catalogers have added more than 16,000 new bib records.

Roholt noted new folks to IFLS and MORE. They include Sue Christianson at Barron, Jennifer Mabie at Hawkins, Amy Abele at Ogema, Olivia Moris at Altoona, and Kati Morley at CVTC.

IFLS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Thompson (IF) noted that the IFLS Board of Trustees will meet next Wednesday in Amery. The Personnel Committee will meet in the morning. The big item will be the director's evaluation. Thompson will also begin discussions about salary and wages for 2025. The Board will work on the budget in September. IFLS will be sending out something in August to library directors to get their priorities. IFLS will be receiving approximately \$140,000 in additional funds from the state for 2025. With the changes of health insurance, which has had a significant impact on health insurance costs for 2025.

Katelyn Noack, Public Services Consultant at IFLS is serving on COLAND and will be providing an extra voice for our region on library issues.

IFLS has been obtaining bids for some building repair and maintenance. The building is roughly 30 years old. The bidding is for work to the main front entrance, sidewalk, and the courier room area. There are additional needs such as replacing flooring and painting depending on costs and budget available.

2025 MORE BUDGET:

Leslie (SC) moved to approve the 2025 MORE budget as presented. Schoess (RO) seconded. Carried.

Questions were asked about Library Elf and the proposed discontinuation. Patrons have liked Library Elf because they could link accounts together and view in one place. Roholt noted that there is not another product in the budget that exactly replaces Library Elf. Text4Library from ShoutBomb is a text messaging service that would at least replace that portion of the service. Text4Library can be configured by library staff, whereas Library Elf had to be configured by the patron.

There are 115,000-120,000 cardholders in MORE. There are 4,000 people using Library Elf, and that is a small amount in the overall user base.

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) as proxy for Rundquist (PE) encourages people to use the library app with the sunsetting of Library Elf. After inquiries of training patrons, Roholt can lay out an array of alternatives. Some directors noted that the library app is an easy alternative.

Another feature patrons liked about Library Elf was that it keeps the reading history. It was noted that the library app also keeps history. Roholt clarified that to save history, patrons have always had to opt in to save it. Sterk (ME) added that if patrons did not initially opt in, the history can still be grabbed as Sierra saves the information.

Directors were questioning if Library Elf should be added back into the budget instead of it sunsetting in six months. This would allow time to plan for patrons to find another way. Others felt the six month sunsetting allows the time needed to inform patrons of the change.

Wiarda (AM) understands concerns raised that large families rely on Library Elf. The library app is quite easy to use for patrons with multiple cards. Libraries need to focus on training users on the library app and all the options it has.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.

Joanne Gardner, Recorder