

MINUTES
MORE Executive Committee
Friday, June 17, 2022

Present/Attending: Shelly Rae (SA), Katherine Elchert (RL), Samma Johnson (CA), John Thompson (IF).

Also Present: Lori Roholt, Bridget Krejci, Kathy Setter, Katelyn Noack, Reb Kilde, Joanne Gardner, Rachel Thomas (AM), Megan Taylor (BB), Joe Niese (CF), Vince Mussehl (CV), Cricket LaFond (CL), Rob Ankarlo (CU), Barbara Krueger (DP), Leann French (DR), Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer (EC), Tiffany Meyer (EL), Christinna Swearingen (LA), Bonnie Carl (MI), Monica LaVold (NR), Shelby Friendshuh (OS), Christy Rundquist (PE), Katherine Elchert (RL), Tori Schoess (RO), Kristina Kelley-Johnson (SO), Su Leslie (SC), Karen Furo-Bonnstetter (WO).

Absent: Allison Lutz (TL).

CALL TO ORDER:

Rae (SA) called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM:

Rae (SA) established a quorum by roll call vote.

COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW:

Certification of compliance with open meeting law was confirmed.

AGENDA:

Thompson (IF) moved to approve the agenda. Johnson (CA) seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Johnson (CA) moved to approve the minutes dated May 6, 2022. Thompson (IF) seconded. Motion carried.

BUDGET HEARING ON 2023 MORE BUDGET:

Roholt displayed the 2023 MORE draft budget. Costs were added for all possible new products. The Resource Sharing/Collection Development committee came up with recommendations for the content section of the budget.

The budget includes a 4% increase based on a 3-year maintenance agreement for BiblioCore – the discovery/online catalog. If the group wishes to go with a 1-year agreement, additional funds will need to be added.

Furo-Bonnstetter (Wo) inquired if Vega, the new Encore product was developed and available through Innovative. Roholt noted that the Vega discovery product is out of development and still being tested at libraries. It is a very new product with no pricing currently. Elchert (RL) recommended moving forward with a three-year agreement with BiblioCore. This change was made right before the pandemic. The thought was it would be inappropriate to try and go through a discovery layer change right now. The library app BiblioApp is now up and running. Roholt added that BiblioApp will only work with BiblioCore. Rundquist (PE) noted that a three-year agreement would help to build the brand and patron base and gives the group time to investigate Vega. Vega would be more stable in a year or two as well. The consensus was to budget for a three-year agreement for BiblioCore.

Roholt reviewed the possible new products that were included in the budget. An informational handout outlining the products was also provided.

Niche Academy

Niche Academy allows for the curation and creation of tutorials for the public and for staff training. A single system-wide subscription could allow for improved training for all MORE-member library staff and provide tutorials for library users via the MORE catalog. This would provide a better way to organize existing training and more training opportunities. Niche Academy also collects and produces training materials.

There was concern voiced about IFLS staff not spending as much time at libraries and losing connections and personal interactions. Roholt noted that in working with a variety of libraries and staff, we try to offer training and learning in as many ways as we can. This product could improve the visibility of training tools. Having an online option serves people who can't make it in during library hours. Niche Academy will not take the place of IFLS workshops nor IFLS staff coming to the individual libraries. It offers an additional way to provide training.

Concerns were voiced that as MORE looks to add new products, should other products be cut or eliminated.

BiblioCloud Records

BiblioCloud Records module enables BiblioCommons to sync metadata from eContent providers, allowing libraries to display their eContent holdings in the BiblioCore catalog without the need to create, manage, or maintain MARC records in the ILS for supported vendors. Using this product instead of loading local records for OverDrive content would save about 12-15 hours/month of IFLS staff time but would also mean OverDrive content would not be discoverable in either Sierra or the Classic Catalog.

After review of the pros and cons, the members felt this product would not be important to include in the 2023 budget.

Booklist Online Unlimited

This product is a collection development and readers' advisory tool, with the option to share Booklist Reader with patrons. Libraries may be familiar with the print version of Booklist. If this product is purchased through MORE, it would provide digital licenses for all libraries.

Some libraries carry the print subscription and share with other libraries. Some directors don't see this as an improvement or better than tools libraries already have and are familiar with.

LibraryIQ

This product is a robust staff-facing collection analysis tool and incorporates elements of the IFLS dashboard and DecisionCenter. LibraryIQ works well with systems when all the buying is done in one location.

The subscription cost of \$120,000 was viewed as very expensive. The committee agreed to keep an eye on this product for the future to see if they put out different options. The annual cost for the current DecisionCenter is under \$40,000 a year. The IFLS dashboard comes with no additional cost to us. It is not the most sustainable product, but for now it works.

Individual libraries can subscribe to LibraryIQ at the cost of \$7,400 per library. Library size doesn't matter for implementation.

B&T's DEI Analysis

This product is another collection development tool to support diversity, equity, and inclusion. It does not have all the bells and whistles of LibraryIQ.

Positive comments include: a development tool in reviewing collections from the lens of diversity and would be helpful when facing challenges.

Concerns shared include:

- while product is useful and helpful, all libraries are becoming better with reviewing collections, how much use will it have by librarians.
- The annual fee versus how often this tool would be used continuously and maybe look towards a product or tool to do inclusivity audit and where collections are now and then in a few years and how to improve.
- Unknown price jumps from year to year and only updated quarterly.

Elchert (RL) recommended taking this product to the MORE Directors Council for a full discussion. Having a neutral tool to bring in more diversity to our collections is important. Having resources to be thoughtful and point of education for our communities. Moving forward, there will no fewer book or program challenges.

Roholt directed discussion to the content section of the budget. The Resource Sharing/Collection Development (RS/CD) committee made some recommendations.

The Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) cost is not negotiable. This is the E-content buying pool for the OverDrive collection. Some funds are returned for system Advantage account.

The amount budgeted for OverDrive Content was increased from \$35,000 in 2022 to \$53,000 for 2023 by the RS/CD committee. This content is for system members, additional copies to fill holds, and unique content.

Electronic Magazines will remain at the same level as 2022 of \$9,000. We pick the magazine subscriptions through Flipster. At the end of 2021, the RS/CD committee cut a lot of titles to reduce duplication of magazines offered through OverDrive.

The RS/CD committee has recommended discontinuing Freading eBook Service. Freading offers unlimited users and is paid per use. \$12,000 was budgeted for this year. This service is not reflected in the 2023 budget.

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) would rather see the money that was rolled from Freading to the OverDrive buying pool go towards a new product like Niche Academy. Using dollars from programs we eliminate to cover new products that are added.

Elchert (RL) is the chair of the RS/CD committee, and they didn't make any decision related to the content lightly. The committee looked at the electronic collection as a whole. If that money is moved, it wouldn't likely be added back. It would be short sided to remove digital content.

Furo-Bonnstetter (WO) noted that for her, the increase from last year to this year, means the money will come out of her collection development. There is an aging population in her community and large print materials cost more. Libby use has not increased much the last couple of years. Patrons still come into the library to browse for books. Fewer books are being put on shelves if moneys are kept in collection development.

Elchert (RL) noted that the MORE budget is being discussed as a whole for shared consortium needs. Libraries need to stay relevant, as the aging population is dying off. Many libraries, including Rice Lake, have an aging population.

Krueger (DP) stated that increases will result in Deer Park making cuts to collection development; yet understands Elchert's statement of viewing the budget as a whole for the consortium. Krueger noted that if there is \$12,000 from eliminating Freading, \$8,300 of that could be allocated to add Niche Academy. This would still leave \$3,700 towards electronic materials.

Johnson (CA) suggested that it may be more palatable to increase OverDrive Content to \$45,000 instead of \$53,000. The Collection Development Project for high-demand materials has already been reduced by \$5,000. And Freading has been eliminated.

It was asked if Library Elf was still relevant and useful. Roholt noted that Library Elf has features that are not available with Sierra notices. Messages can be sent plain text and there is the ability to have multiple cards to a single account. The cost for Library Elf in 2022 was \$1,800.

It was noted that there are fewer cover images in Content Café. Is this product doing what it should or should we do differently. Roholt will check and see if the cover images are working. Content Café is Innovative's preferred vendor and is the less expensive option out there.

(LaVold (NR) left the meeting at 11:53 am.)

It was asked if any work has been done to look at potential replacements in the future for iTIVA – the telephone notification and renewal service. Roholt replied that the TNS is housed on the server locally. Overall, it does a good job and just as reliable as the previous product. Sierra has a new product that is cloud based, but the same cost as iTIVA, but there is a \$5,000 cost to switch. Roholt doesn't believe changing the TNS is pressing at this time.

LaFond (CL) inquired if we still needed Marcive to help make records more consistent now that we have centralized cataloging. Roholt noted that the benefits of Marcive extend beyond fixing up cataloger errors. Roholt has not delved into the service and value we get out of it today. Roholt and Krejci could prepare more information for the Directors Council on July 15th.

(Meyer (EL) left at 12:00 pm.)

Johnson (CA) moved to close the hearing on the draft 2023 MORE budget. Thompson (IF) seconded. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON 2023 MORE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION:

Elchert (RL) moved to remove all new products except Niche Academy from the 2023 MORE draft budget. Retain \$65,100 in Reserves/Carryover for Operating Expenses. Reduce OverDrive Content to \$50,000. Johnson (CA) seconded. Motion carried.

Thompson (IF) moved that Lori Roholt and Cecelia Cole form a diverse Collection Development committee to bring any DEI tools recommendation to MORE/IFLS for consortium/system level purchasing by May 2023.

Library directors can be asked at the July Director's Council meeting to serve on the committee.

ADJOURN:

Johnson (CA) made a motion to adjourn at 12:10 pm. Rae (SA) seconded. Motion carried.

Elchert (RL) announced that she has accepted the Library Director position at the Wisconsin Rapids Public Library and will begin on August 22, 2022. Elchert is hoping for IFLS applicants for the Rice Lake Public Library.

Joanne Gardner, Recorder