

LYNX! Directors' Meeting

16 March 2007

Twin Falls Public Library

Present: Mary DeWalt, Ada Community; Kevin Booe, Boise; Elaine Leppert, Caldwell; Ron Baker, Eagle; Lisa Zeiter, Garden City; Ann Tabler, Hailey; Patty Younger, Meridian; Luise House, Mountain Home; Karen Ganske, Nampa; Susan Ash and Annie-Laurie Burton, Twin Falls Others: Gina Persichini, Idaho Commission for Libraries

Minutes of January 19, 2006 meeting. MS DeWalt/House; minutes approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Horizon Migration and IT Status Reports

Kevin made this report in Laurel White's absence. He passed out copies of Laurel's written report to the Directors. No final payment has been made to SirsiDynix for the Horizon system. The recent announcement that SirsiDynix will be replacing Horizon with the "Rome" platform has caused excitement and concern. Laurel has sent questions concerning this issue to the company, as has the CODI Board. Barb Peer is following up with inquiries to SirsiDynix and to other Horizon user libraries.

The TeleCirc server is up and running, but the Director's Station is not yet operational. Boise is creating statistical templates that can be used by other LYNX! members. For Boise the worst aspect of the migration has been statistics retrieval. Boise has finally been able to report statistics from October forward.

Gary Beaty, the City of Boise's IT manager, will be at next LYNX! Directors' meeting. Ron Reno is the new library IT person replacing Michael. He has been with the City of Boise for some time and will also attend the next LYNX! meeting. Barb and Brad will stay with BPL, but both will have some other City duties. The upstairs offices at BPL are being remodeled for IT use. Laurel, Barb, and Brad will be assigned to this remodeled space.

Mountain Home Status Report

Luise thanked Laurel White for all of her assistance and support. After reporting on Mountain Home's connectivity issues, Luise announced that her library will be closed from April 2 through May 12 for the automation conversion process and for staff training. Lisa suggested shadowing for MHPL staff at other member libraries. Discussion ensued with Boise and several other libraries offering help to MHPL.

NEW BUSINESS

LYNX Consortium Administration

Patty stated that it might be time to look at moving the Consortium out from BPL's administration and building. Mary stated that this is, in reality, "Old Business" because Ron has brogught up this issue before regarding cataloging functions. Mary claimed that although LYNX! may have to incorporate, it did not necessarily need to become a 501 (c) (3) organization. It would however need by-laws and articles of incorporation. Mary has been in touch with the Secretary of State's office and passed out a template for articles of incorporation. Mary felt that LYNX! does not need a physical relocation as much as it needs a conceptual break with the past.

Kevin asked what the driving motivation was for this break and wanted a clear idea of the advantages and disadvantages of this change. Patty said this investigation had been inspired by the potential loss of BPL IT staff and function to the City of Boise.

Luisse said a separate Consortium institution might facilitate recruitment and integration of new member libraries. Mary mentioned again that the Directors might also be looking at Consortium staffing for catalog maintenance, authority work, and training of member catalogers.

Kevin worried about property taxes if LYNX! were not a 501 (c)(3). He asked if we can continue as we are now and still get the functionality we want. Mary stated that LYNX! needs more clarity about positions actually paid out of group funds. Kevin said that he has talked with his management about a "Consortium Consultant" position. He said that he worries about "selling" a separate LYNX! organization with its own employees to the City of Boise and to other city members. He is also worried about the potential benefits package for LYNX! employees.

Gina discussed structures for independence. Directors would serve as the board for the separate organization. Sometimes operations are simpler and faster that way. Gina believes that there is a need to focus on strategic thinking. We must ask, "Where do we want LYNX to be in ten years?" At that point in time can it still be run as part of an individual member library or will it be too big to do so? Discussion ensued about the size of independent boards. It was agreed that no board should have more than a twenty members.

Mary stated that we need to continue to discuss this issue—the options, the pros and the cons as mentioned earlier by Kevin. Karen asked what the continuing relationship would be between individual members and a LYNX! corporation. She observed that COMPASS and its funding have been issues with the City of Boise and with other municipalities.

Ron mentioned that growth of the Consortium doesn't mean only new members; internal growth of current members will at least double the size of Consortium in the years ahead.

Gina observed that it has been projected the Treasure Valley will have the same population as the whole state does now by 2020. Directors should go back and talk about this issue with their decision-makers.

Delivery Pilot Project (OCLC)

Gina reported on this pilot project currently being conducted in Montana involving NCIP (National Standard for Circulation Interchange Protocol). Basically, it is a project to provide ILL delivery directly to patrons from the lending library while still providing standard ILL statistics. OCLC wants to know about direct patron service—is it needed and how will it be financed? It would create two mailings for every ILL instead of the current four. Netflix might be a model for this type of service. OCLC may want to expand this pilot project to Idaho. The Endeavor system in northern part of state has its own NCIP and doesn't want duplication. The State Commission for Libraries is more interested in delivery than in NCIP; OCLC is more interested in NCIP than delivery.

Luise reported that her library had received an OCLC survey on this service. Kevin likes the basic idea. BPL already has home delivery for \$2 per item and has had it for several years.

LiLI-D e-book/data bases records in Horizon

Ron asked if we want cataloging records for the data bases and some 3,600 e-books provided by LiLI-D. Because we're at the beginning of a several-year contract, this might be the time to invest in loading such records. Gina stated that the current LiLI-D vendor contracts are for two years with the possibility of two, one-year renewals. Thomson-Gale will give us loadable records. Discussion ensued on how to implement cataloging and standardize holdings records. Kevin will have his staff look in to this. Gina mentioned that the State Library Commission owns the e-book titles, so holdings won't change even if vendors and databases do. There was general agreement that LYNX! will proceed with this project.

News/Reports from Members

Kevin reported that BPL had preliminary designs for two new branches and construction will start soon on these. Staff is also working on opening day collections for these facilities. Architectural bids are being solicited on the Cole and Ustick library, as well. BPL is restructuring its management staff in preparation of becoming a true library system. Kevin also stated that the City was pushing ahead on reimbursement discussions and indicated that the Mayor and City Government generally were very supportive of the direction BPL was headed. He estimates that BPL's operational budget will double by 2010. BPL also has the "Java Jitters" coffee vendor, thanks to the success of the concession at Garden City P.L.

Ann reported that HPL was in the middle of much remodeling, including the YA area and the restrooms. HPL is getting wireless connectivity. The City of Hailey is in the middle of a 20-year planning process and the library is participating in this. HPL has started a new collection of book club titles in multiple copies and is experiencing a brisk circulation of these materials

Elaine reported that CPL is looking with its City at salary levels. CPL is having trouble filling vacancies at the current salary levels. CPL is also exploring wireless connectivity

Karen reported that NPL is continuing to explore new building possibilities, which are connected to Nampa's larger downtown redevelopment project. Karen quizzed the group on their plans to adopt 3M RFID technology and discussion ensued. She reported on a multi-media art contest imagining the look and services of a new downtown library.

Gina reported on surveys and surveying projects by the Commission for Libraries. She talked about the success of the e-branch, web-site-in-a-box project, now being used by several smaller libraries statewide. She reported that the OCLC batch loading problem is nationwide. OCLC hardware for World Cat is at capacity and loading is not being done in a timely manner. There will be increases in Lill Unlimited costs in 2008 of \$50 to \$500, depending upon the size of the institution.

Lisa reported on a mural project, a business networking project, and family games night during National Library Week at the GCPL.

Mary reported that ACL is close to signing a lease for a new Hidden Springs Branch facility, which is across the street from its present location in the Merc. Mary "plugged" summer reading, emphasizing staff teamwork and staff morale, particularly among circulation folks. She passed on a warning from 3M to watch SIP compatibility for peripherals. A general discussion ensued regarding PAMS, SAMS, and smart cards.

Luise reported that both the coffee shop and wireless connectivity will remain available to the public during MHPL's planned closure.

Patty reported that new tile flooring will be installed in the Meridian Library during spring break because of the settling of the building. There will be no public restrooms available for a week.

Susan introduced TFPL's Assistant Director, Annie-Laurie Burton. TFPL got a favorable elevator inspection after spending \$35,000 to bring equipment up to standard. Projects are now beginning to reconfigure the front entrance, for both safety and aesthetics reasons, and public restrooms. The Library is having wireless installation problems due to the age and construction of the building.

Kevin said that BPL is having bandwidth issues with its wireless service and that its retrofitted warehouse building limits wireless reception in some areas. Discussion ensued about filtered versus unfiltered wireless connectivity. BPL has gone unfiltered because

of the umbrella coverage of eight networks over its facility and parking lot. Meridian District has done the same. Both libraries are experiencing “internet cafe” parties after hours in their parking lots.

Ron reported that EPL has finished its last major shelving installation, which brings the building’s collection capacity to 82,500 items and allows about two more years’ worth of growth. He also discussed ways in which EPL and other LYNX! members might help Middleton High School rebuild its library. Discussion ensued. Middleton School District will not have any insurance money with which to rebuild its high school library and a donation account has been set up with Syringa Bank for this purpose. Several members discussed ways they were providing assistance in this recovery effort.

ACTION ITEMS

Cataloging of LiLI-D e-books and databases—exploration with BPL cataloging staff.

The LYNX! incorporation issue—exploration with member decision-makers.

Next meeting on Friday, July 20, 2007, at Napa Public Library, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Discussion ensued about a Treasure Valley “library summit” meeting on incorporation of LYNX! Kevin stated that he would like the topic of library consolidation to be included in any such meeting. Several suggestions were made concerning a facilitator for such a meeting. It was agreed that this meeting will be placed as an item on the next agenda.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Baker, Note-Taker