Minutes of the MARINet Board of Directors Meeting
November 15th, 2007
6 Hamilton Landing, Suite 140C, Staff Room

Board Members Present:

Frances Gordon, Acting Chair	Larkspur Public Library
Anji Brenner	Mill Valley Public Library
Sara Loyster	San Anselmo Public Library
Deborah Mazzolini	Belvedere-Tiburon Public Library
Gail Haar	Marin County Free Library
Mary Richardson	Sausalito Public Library

Also Present:	Deb Moehrke, MARINet System Administrator
	Kay Noguchi San Rafael Public Library

I.   Public Comment Period**:**   No public present
II.   Introduction of Guests**:**   No guests present
III.   Approval of Minutes**:**   Minutes from October 18, 2007 Board Meeting were approved with minor corrections.

IV.   Additions to the Agenda: no additions to the agenda

V.   Old Business

   A. Report of the JPA review**:** Mary Richardson reported on a November 6th meeting with Gail Haar and David Dodd. Some of the key points from this meeting included:

   § The increasing difficulty the MARINet Board is having reaching a consensus that satisfies all members. Contributing to this difficulty are issues like: one or more libraries wanting a product that other libraries don't want; one or more libraries wanting a product/service that could affect workflow issues for all libraries, potential conflict from the different agendas of public versus academic libraries, financial disparity amongst member libraries.

   § The need to come up with a mechanism that allows more flexibility for individual libraries to offer different services. Issues that may need to be resolved are: a baseline of services, possibilities for different types of memberships to accommodate different types of libraries, and possibilities for accommodating different financial situations.

§ The importance of not rushing decisions: The Board has a lot of important decisions coming up and it is important not to rush decisions at the expense of properly exploring the issues.

§ The Need to Review the JPA. When the JPA was created, it represented the County and three city libraries. That is no longer an accurate reflection of the composition of the MARINet Board. The JPA indicates that it should regularly be reviewed.

§ The Importance of Board Members Voicing their Opinions: When Joan Frye Williams consulted with MARINet, she highlighted the importance of dissenting opinions. All Board members need to voice their opinions regarding decisions.

It was decided that we would have a brainstorming session at the retreat about the JPA.

B. Update on ILL Task Force Meeting - Deb
Deb reported on the November 9th ILL Task Force Meeting and gave credit to Abbot Chambers, the chair of the task force, for leading an excellent meeting. The task force is made up of Abbot Chambers, Anji Brenner, Deb Moehrke, Libby Flinn, and David Dodd. All were in attendance except for David. The task force first brainstormed the ideal ILL and from that discussion made a list of factors that would be evaluated in analyzing different systems. These factors included: public interface, depth of network, experience of the patron, cost, delivery options, sustainability of the option, and fulfillment rate. Abbot will be contacting ILL staff at MARINet libraries to assess current ILL use. Each person on the task force will be investigating one option. Systems to be analyzed include: Supersearch (with OCLC back-up), California Catalog, WorldCat local, Link+, and ordering whatever books online patrons want. The task force next meets on December 3rd, leaving ample time to prepare the white paper for the next MARINet Board meeting.

C. Plan for January 31st Retreat.

David Dodd has an existing "parking list" of items for the retreat. Board members were encouraged to send possible agenda items to Deb Moehrke. Frances Gordon volunteered to bring pastries and coffee for the morning. We will get take out for lunch. The retreat will be in San Rafael City Hall 3rd floor Conference Room on January 31st from 9:30 am-4 pm.

VI.   New Business

A. Why Do We Require Pins

Moehrke reported that it was a MARINet decision that we require pins and that other systems do not. A discussion ensued about the importance

of pins. Points made in favor of pins included: protecting the privacy of a patron's reading history if their card was lost or stolen and protecting money in print management accounts. Points against pins included the difficulty many patrons have in remembering their pins, especially evident in reserving computers. Moehrke pointed out that in the new release of Innovative software, patrons will be able to request that their pins be reset and the new one emailed to them if they do have an email address in the patron record. It was decided that directors would poll their staff informally to get feedback on this issue and we would revisit this in March.

B. Alias name use in catalog

Moehrke investigated the uses of aliases in the catalog. This would allow patrons to use an alias for self-service holds. However, the print-out wrapper that MARINet has chosen for self-service holds is not compatible with this feature. The Board felt that the alias feature was not a necessary feature as there has been minimal concern from the public about privacy in self-service holds. Brenner asked about the use of aliases for barcodes so patrons would not have to remember their 7 digit number. Moehrke will investigate whether or not this feature exists.

C. LSTA Grant Cycle

At the request of Chair David Dodd, Gordon handed out a copy of the recent memo from Susan Hildreth regarding the Library Services and Technology Act Competitive Grant Program. It was pointed out that Hildreth is particularly interested in grant projects that, "involve collaboration with other community organizations that increase the visibility and presence of the library in the community".

VII. Standing Items for Agenda:

A. Reports from Committee Liaisons- no committees met since the last meeting.

B. System Administrator's Report- Moehrke elaborated on the recent errors in reporting ILL statistics, in part due to the complexity of gathering data from multiple MCFL statistics groups within the limitations of the report. Measures have been taken to reduce the likelihood of similar errors in the future. Moehrke also gave an update on access to the county's assessor information. David Dodd has pursued getting city library staff access to the assessor's data now used by the County Library staff. County IST will begin working on a web-based interface with similar capabilities. The Board was asked to consider where there is a secure place to put the entry point to the interface; the staff page on Thurston was suggested. Moehrke also reported that MARINet member libraries have not yet been billed for Library Online

for 2006 due to some delays and errors in billing as well as changes in member library licenses.

C. Correspondence: A thank-you note from Carol Starr for her retirement lunch and gift; the Board also discussed a future personnel issue.

D. Items for future agendas: ILL Taskforce, Dominican College, Retreat Planning.

VIII. Announcements: Gail Haar reported on the current recruitment of a new Deputy County Librarian. Anji Brenner reported that the Mill Valley Public Library's website would launch in mid-December. The library will have a unique presence within the city website, representing a more innovative approach to traditional municipal sites. Kay Noguchi reported using Bookletters, the online version of a service they have used in print since 1999. She also reported that San Rafael was looking at options to have a more independent library presence on their city website. Sara Loyster reported that they received a grant to produce their own website from InfoPeople. They are challenged by some of the limitations of the system but are hopeful that they will have good results. Frances Gordon reported that they are joining Library Online with two internet stations starting in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Anji Brenner