

MARINet Board Meeting and 2022 Retreat
Minutes for Jan. 27, 2022 Meeting
(approved 3/3/22)

Present:

Henry Bankhead (Chair) for San Rafael, Franklin Escobedo (Vice Chair) for Larkspur, Linda Kenton for San Anselmo, Crystal Duran for Bel-Tib, Lana Adlawan for Marin County, Anji Brenner for Mill Valley, Abbot Chambers for Sausalito, Gary Gorka for Dominican, Sarah Frye for College of Marin, Jessica Trenary for MARINet, Dan McMahon (minutes) for MARINet.

Guests: none

Convened at 9:05 a.m.

Introductions for new Bel Tib Director Crystal, library directors around the table introduce themselves.

Minutes from Nov. 19, 2021: Approved unanimously with no changes.

Old Business:

RFID Project Update: Jessica reports that it's going very well, she is putting pads out at libraries now. The pads for MCFL branches will be installed by Jim and MCFL Tech Support. The tagging numbers are coming in lower due to heavy weeding so that's good for us covering bills. In the future, does MARINet supply additional or replacement pads, and do we support them?

Presentation to the MARINet Board by Patty Wong:

City Librarian of Santa Clara, President of CLA 21-22, faculty at SJSU teaching equitable access and services to young people.

Presentation Title: Transformational Action for Today's Leaders: an EDI Approach

Make sure we all have the commitment to work together as a team, to make space and make room for new ideas. All strong leaders need to leave the egos at the door.

Going fine free is a current financial issue with major equity considerations. Who does our operation burden? Who does it benefit?

What other decisions do we make together? Do we know who our stakeholders are? In each community, there are a range of folks. Not all rich. What can the directors do collectively to reach all the stakeholders?

She is currently doing work for universal borrowing for electronic resources. Can we share the info with each other on where are the pockets that aren't being served? It can be used for grant writing purposes or for other service engagement. We share services, but we don't need a shared concept of who the service population is?

Anji adds that it would help here if conversations outside of meetings could take place. MCFL and MVY are looking at cooperating on programs subsequent to meetings. In home delivery? One Book One

Marin for example. We need to identify and prioritize what can be done. Devote a portion of meeting to planning. Is our existing operating model best suited for new strategies?

We are a JPA and a Board governed by the Brown Act. That sometimes hampers us. Do we have more meetings? Public meetings? We have business we have to do. Before Covid, meetings used to take place at different libraries, could we do that again? There is public recording of meetings, that changes what people might be willing to say in a meeting. We should consider one round of meetings at the libraries once restrictions lift.

Specifically on Equity, Patty describes the difference between Performative and Transformational Actions. Performative action is not sustainable. Transformative Action is the alternative paradigm to move us beyond observation. One example she has is including the homeless community in decision making, using social workers to interface. How can libraries provide free equal access equitably? Libraries around the county are being attacked not just for CRT, pervasive. California libraries are lucky, in not dealing with this as much. We are preserving the right to read for our community.

She offers a quote by Dr. Monica Cox, "Instead of showing me your diversity statement, show me your hiring data, your discrimination claim stats, your salary tables, your retention numbers, your diversity policies, and your leaders' public actions against racism. End performative allyship."

Where are our library card holders coming from? Use GIS mapping. Find the pockets.

How can a library work with the city if the library is more aggressive at transformational change than the city? Napa City/County example, developed way of communicating with the officials. Example after Santa Monica riot, the new police chief ended up arguing for library budget. Find an ally within the leadership, to help you plan. The library won't be working alone. They need other departments to support them.

Patty is asked about the change to the Master's degree being preferred not required. It tends to be difficult conversation among staff. Patty recommends targeting staff development at everyone. Check the job descriptions. Involve the bargaining units in the conversation. What does it mean to have the MLS? How do staff use it?

New time for board meeting:

The group arrives at the best time overall, now the first Thursday of each month, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be no February meeting. The Executive Committee will meet on the second Wednesday (the week after the Board meeting) from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Overdrive Reciprocal Lending proposal.

Jessica presents the DRWG plan, to partner with NorthNet and/or PLS in their consortial Overdrive collections, to have reciprocal borrowing for items that don't have hold queues. Overdrive sets this up and it costs us nothing directly. The consensus is that this is an awesome idea. What kind of stats will we get? Jessica says it should be like SORA, detailed stats by site. What effect will this have on metered titles? It will use up a single use credit just like a local checkout. How much overlap is there in the collections? MARINet has 50k unique titles to the proposed group, while NLS has 77k unique titles and PLS has 84k of them.

North Net and PLS need to make their own decision. Are there more possible partners? Currently each library is an individual link, so there is no federated search for this yet. People have to enter their library card number and PIN at each library site, once they navigate there. The NorthNet meeting is tomorrow, this is on that agenda. Motion to approve Overdrive Reciprocal Lending proposal, second, BET abstain COM DUC LRK MCFL MVY SAN SRPL SAU yes. We should have subcommittee to look at this see if there's a better way to do the same thing.

Cost Sharing Formula: handed out for Resolution to Adopt for FY22-23.

For the longer term we should have a working group to consider alternatives. Under the JPA the formula can be changed, but only with the vote of everyone. For the WG idea, Anji and Henry volunteer, we'll revisit in March. Motion to pass the Resolution Adopting the Cost Sharing Formula FY22-23, yes is BET COM DUC LRK MCFL MVY SAN SRPL SAU.

Explanation of Resolution for Bank Account request, Dan wants to open an account for MARINet at either US Bank or Mechanics Bank, both have branches in Marin. This is for transferring the fines paid in PayPal so that we can give them back to libraries. It should be a local bank with values we can get behind, recommendation is to check the credit union out too. Motion made to adopt Resolution, second, vote is yes by BET COM DUC MCFL MVY SAN SRPL SAU LRK.

FY 2022-23 Budget Handout: A PDF is in the packet, and Dan will email the Excel out to board members. We have no anticipated major staff changes, and are getting 2.5% COLAs from the County. The list of database subscriptions is based on the recommendations from the Digital Resources Working Group (DRWG). Our biggest driver of cost increases next year is Overdrive, as we're adding \$82,000 to the budget for content, to reflect the level that we've spent this year.

Library Market is shutting down the patron credit card verification service that we use, so that needs replacement. Originally it was for July 1, 2022 but now the drop dead date is Nov. We have an idea of one vendor through Califa that we'll start with, and we'll see if there are others who offer this service. Any new vendor will probably cost more and have a setup charge, but the one we know of also offers patron record coding as a service, so we may want to look into that. Staff will bring a formal proposal to a future meeting.

Circ Working Group update: An update from Dan on patron card expiration and emails that go out. It's lots of work to do the custom email but it works really well at reaching thousands of people. Dan will send out a MUC message about the card renewals today, updating all staff.

Systems report: Reserves are strong, now \$500,000. We could always skip a year in putting money in if there are overall budget pressures. Questions asked were:

Q: BiblioCommons seems to be having problems lately. What's up? A: Since the sale of the company two years ago, we've seen more outages and glitches, and a slowing of new features. We are keeping an eye on this.

Q: For Self checks, would a group buy save us money? A: Not so much, except the SIP2 licenses with Innovative can be bought for 2 to 1 at times. If we buy 5 or more machines, we might get a slight price break, that has happened in the past from 3M, but the group would have to agree on one vendor.

Q: Are there barcode scanners that work with people's smart phones? A: The Orbits work now with cell phones. Franklin will share what they're using at LRK, San Rafael also has ones they like.

Topics for future agenda:

- RFID
- Going to try for lunch at the next meeting in March.

Announcements:

- Larkspur reduced Saturday hours.
- Bel Tib is reopening for limited in-person browsing starting Monday, Mon to Sat 10-5.
- COM started classes remotely for the first 2 weeks, and the Library changed hours, and should be back to regular hours Feb. 7.
- San Rafael Public Library is back to regular hours, open 7 days 5 at Pickleweed and 4 days a week at Northgate Mall.

12:06 p.m. Meeting is adjourned