

**MARINet Board Meeting – Minutes**  
**Sept. 1, 2022 Online Meeting 12:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.**  
Approved on Oct. 6, 2022

**Present:** Franklin Escobedo, Henry Bankhead, Lana Adlawan, Abbot Chambers, Gary Gorka, Anji Brenner, Linda Kenton, Sarah Frye, Jessica Trenary, Dan McMahon.

**Absent:** Bel Tib Library.

**12:01 Meeting is convened.**

**Guests:** Pat Beaupre Becker of the Marin County League of Women Voters.

Pat Beaupre Becker from the Marin League of Women Voters Board of Directors spoke to the group about the LWV's work with MCFL so far, and the desire to extend this work to the other libraries. Libraries are seen by the public as among the most trusted sites. The LWV Outreach Team was to provide information to voters to make sure they know how, when and why to vote. The next ballot has lots of measures, which means lots of information for voters. You can reach the Team at [outreach@marinlwv.org](mailto:outreach@marinlwv.org).

**Public comments:** No members of the public present.

**Approval of 8/4/22 minutes.** Agenda says 7/7/22 minutes, so approval must be delayed.

**Cost Sharing Working Group:** Nothing to report.

**Regional Working Groups Group:** No response yet from the state library, 2 months to this point.

**Task Force on Working Groups:** Who is on it? If SR is on, MCFL drops off to avoid quorum issues.

**Dominican Library \$25,000 Membership Discount for FY22-23:** Dominican didn't use any funds last year for RFID tagging through Backstage, saving us a lot of money. At the time it was suggested by a Board member to give a discount this year to anyone who didn't utilize the tagging. Motion made to provide a \$25k discount to Dominican University Library's FY22-23 Membership invoice, second, passes unanimously. A Board Resolution will circulate through DocuSign for signatures.

**Aspen Catalog:** One director insists that Aspen needs to be assessed more deeply, a more detailed comparison with BiblioCommons. BC has offered to do an update on new features, their roadmap, which is traditionally what we've done when comparing catalogs. Jessica is looking at user experience using non-library folks, also comparing features of the two platforms. There will be a discussion next month on this.

**JPA Revision:** We've been talking 5 years about this, are we really ready to do this? Cost formula discussions are a piece of this, should we wait until the formula is settled? Any new JPA has to route through all the city councils etc. and likely be vetted by each jurisdiction's legal counsel. There is a question of what this looks like, it last happened in 1995-97. Should we hire someone to do this, since we don't seem to be able to address it. Hard to guarantee that each council will approve, may vary by cycles of who is on the council. The consultant could help with the presentation to councils. Will it roll

up the COM and DUC agreements? In the funding part, the colleges need to be looked at, as they want to remain in MARINet if possible. There is general agreement that outside assessment of the JPA would be good. Dan Schwartz, Larkspur City Manager would be able to talk about this to us too, he's very conversant in JPA requirements. A new JPA would have to be adopted unanimously, per the current JPA. Send questions to Franklin. Back to the Executive Committee for next steps.

**Marin County Preparedness Coordinator Elaine Wilkinson:** The County EOC is trying to reach people to get involved in preparedness programs, and libraries can help with that. The COE needs to do more outreach, and Elaine has been brought on board to overhaul it. They have created a four-week program on Disaster Preparedness at Mill Valley, talking about the basics. Now the EOC is trying to expand the diversity of people taking part in the program.

September is National Preparedness Month. A series of classes starts at MVY tonight, on packing a go bag and doing CPR. Elaine can be reached at [ewilkinson@smfd.org](mailto:ewilkinson@smfd.org). Banners or posters on Preparedness are available for libraries.

**AMH sorter updates:** We're waiting for plans from the architects. Henry mentions, they want to be a public demo site for RFID possibilities. A sorter at downtown San Rafael Library would speed things up a bit, given the whole bin thing, and that would justify using MARINet funds, at least in part on a sorter. Mill Valley wants to be kept in the loop in case something would fit. Henry has links on the IMMF to share, all kinds of cool technology can be done with RFID. Its time to plan the field trip to Sacramento to look at their sorter. Henry and Lana will schedule a tour date. Lori's schedule is available online, she will coordinate the visit with Sac PL.

**Collaboration/Partnership Working Group:** How are people feeling about resuming in-person programs. Sausalito is tilting back toward doing programs, as it seems like people are in a place now where those who are concerned wear masks. Mill Valley is having reading events, taking the temperature of the public to see if they're willing to come to things in person. They're getting feedback from patrons that it's something they really want. MCFL is heading there, depending on location. A unified summer reading program would maybe be really effective. Is it achievable? Mill Valley always does own program, and expects to continue to do that. Should people do Hoopla and Kanopy together?

**Equity:** Mill Valley this month. Would like a more practical orientation to the discussion and maybe it doesn't need to take place every month. Hiring seems to be the big thing we can do to facilitate change and equity. Libraries should work together on this. On-call staff is especially an issue, it takes too long to onboard people. Should libraries collaborate on that with joint panels? Should the discussions continue to be monthly? Several directors speak in favor of continuing this standing item in its current form. It has given the directors a shared vocabulary.

#### **Systems Report:**

- a. The online Brown Act training done by the Marin County Counsel's Office is really good, and while it's 90 minutes long, the first 35 minutes cover most of what we'd need.
- b. CENIC is evolving, we've had the first questions about withdrawing. Dan will check on whether any connections can be dropped, but it may indicate that a smaller subset of libraries continues after 2026 when the current contracts end.
- c. Staff training has resumed, still virtual. Online training does not work as well as in-person trainings. (No video, no questions or comments, no meeting new people. No interaction at all,

and training becomes a monologue.) We can eventually go back to in-person, or go to canned trainings, shorter and more focused.

- d. Overdrive circulation was 59k last month. How's the soft rollout of Overdrive reciprocal lending go, and how and when does it start? PLS and NorthNet won't start promoting it until staff feel comfortable. It'll be live on the Overdrive site, and the DRWG folks will handle staff training.
- e. How's it going with rolling out RFID to the public, in particular at the self-checks? Larkspur has done this, they say start in the kid's room, then they show their parents. Some sites are waiting to put the pads at self-checks for everything to be tagged.

#### **Topics for next time:**

- Pat of the LWV wants to come back in October.
- BiblioCommons would like to do a presentation of 15 minutes on their product roadmap. Aspen demonstrated theirs but gets invited back to do that again.
- Should we talk about meeting in person again? Also, should it be rescheduled? The beginning of a day is easier for meeting in person.
- Under the current modification of the Brown Act, meeting virtually takes a renewal every 30 days.
- The January Retreat?
- Retreat on agenda?
- On Oct. 6 Franklin won't be here, so Lana will run the meeting.

#### **Announcements:**

**College of Marin:** We are back in person. Enrollment in the last years has been down, then up, and back down again. We're doing programs with the LWV around voter registration and researching ballot measures, and also Banned Book Week programs. The new Welcome Center is up and running, with enrollment services, cashier etc. in the former Bank of the West building on the east side of College Ave.

**Dominican Univ:** The construction has begun. 6 months from now permanent offices will be built. Demolition is starting next week. The library will have new offices, and a new Center for the Dominican Experience, with an art gallery in the lobby. It should take a year, or a bit more. The library will be able to accommodate MARINet deliveries all through, and will advise if not able to at any point.

**Larkspur:** We are trying to get press for being reopened, and that the new holds pickup locker is live. We don't know what's happening with the building, but the Foundation is nearing the \$5m mark where they can start on a building.

**Marin County:** We are preparing for November, mostly making sure staff know the answers about the ballot measure if asked.

**Mill Valley:** We are recruiting, and have interviews for the new archivist librarian. We're also bringing back programming.

**San Anselmo:** There is a construction project across the street from the library. It's really loud, we have to keep the windows closed during the day. We're seeing a post-summer bump in all of our business. Storytimes take a break in August, and are back this Saturday. We're also looking for continuation of the parcel tax with Measure H. (The Town also has a tax, Measure J, on the ballot.)

**Sausalito:** The new union contract is not signed yet, but it looks like we're switching to a 4-day 36 hour schedule, as part of cost saving efforts. This may lead to the library closing on Fridays. Right now there is some construction happening to fix flood damage.

**Meeting adjourned** by vote at 2:10.

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