

**NOBLE  
MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION MEETING  
AT NOBLE  
NOVEMBER 20, 2008**

**PRESENT:** Eighteen libraries were represented at the meeting, attendance sheet attached.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Linda Hummel-Shea called the meeting to order at 10:00. Introductions were done.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ruth Urell made a motion to approve Minutes from October 16, 2008 meeting. Martha Holden seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Doug Rendell reported spending is on budget. Ruth Urell made a motion to approve report. Pat Cirone seconded the motion, vote was unanimous.

**MANAGERS' REPORT:**

**Ron Gagnon –**

- Working with Paula, George, and Martha on quotes for new PC specs for staff workstations running Millennium. Recommending Dell Optiplex, which is \$50 less than prior quote and has 3GB of RAM. Vostro is an option, but once add extras it's more than Optiplex and no discounts offered.
- Overdrive promotional materials are in and will be distributed to libraries.
- Submitted Letter of Intent to MBLC for library system server. Getting quotes from Innovative. Grant due in March. Get approval in summer, therefore project wouldn't begin until a year from now.

**Elizabeth Thomsen –**

- **OverDrive:**
  - Has been launched and new titles are being added gradually. Demonstrated an overview of our OverDrive web site. Continue to work on language that tells people who is eligible, which is by residence. OverDrive is working on that. Wants to set up access to statistics for libraries. Collection Management working on building the collection.
  - Glenn MacNutt commented doing this for one year trial, but not buying a lot. If OverDrive goes out of business or service unsatisfactory there's no physical book. Something to consider. Elizabeth agreed, but reiterated OverDrive strong company with solid reputation. It is a service that is being purchased.
  - Pat Cirone commented same thing with databases. Have databases where a journal stops publication, but still paying for database.
  - Brian Courtemanche stated as an academic member their primary mission is for services that provide academic support. Will consider if this is something as an academic member would support on long term.
  - Myron Schirer-Suter asked if there will be records in catalog. Elizabeth stated working with NELINET to get that done.
  - Ruth Urell stated this is opportunity utilize resource sharing as a group.
  - Linda Hummel-Shea added CD/DVD's have short shelf life due to being scratched. Downloadable items could be more circulated than if on CD/DVD.
  - Ron added initial supply of promotional materials, bookmarks and business cards, are packaged for directors to take after meeting.
- **Electronic Resources and Database Working Group:**
  - Turned on the "text to cell phone" feature option in the catalog. Also adding soon is feature to bookmark item to several accounts.
  - Allocating record enhancement funds to add "*LibraryThing*" to our library data in our catalog. It connects one record to another record. Demonstrated it on CW/MARS web site. *LibraryThing* is social network of people inputting many books. Similar Books feature in it is the social aspect, which similar books are recommended on topics. Another feature is "tags", which pulls from NOBLE catalog. Will do for a trial for a year. Brian commented could limit people from seeking out further researching because only returns from our catalog.

- Reported on *Roundtable sessions*. The Reference Roundtable is being separate into two sessions; one for public and one for academic. Morning of December 12<sup>th</sup> NOBLE is hosting NMRLS Systems Librarians Meeting 9:30-12:00.

### **Martha Driscoll –**

- Researching bandwidth issues particularly at Melrose. Purchased Internet connection from Comcast for staff machines on noblenet. Public PC's Comcast. Purchased 6 MB, getting 16 MB. Looking at this as an option for other libraries. Dennis reported there is a big improvement on the speed.
- Continues to work on webmail. Demonstrated open source program, SquirrelMail. Were using Emumail webmail. Moving accounts over to SquirrelMail. Purchased themes for \$39 for SquirrelMail. This program has auto responder and plug ins can be written and added.

### **FY 2010 ACTION PLAN:**

- Ron reported the Action Plan is due at MBLC on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Executive Board met before this meeting and approved the plan with the following change; Goal 1, Objective E, adding the word "offer" in the first sentence: "The Member Services Manager will *offer* to provide....."
- Main goal that will be reevaluated is our core services integrated library system. Current system is almost 10 years old and there have been many changes in technology and market place.

Ron reviewed some of the highlights of the plan:

- Replacing our integrated library system server
- Research possibly outsourcing web hosting

Executive Board authorized a new working group, System Review Working Group, to assist with the process of researching a new integrated library system server. Committee is being formed and looking for policy level people from NOBLE libraries.

- Ruth asked for clarification of Goal 3, B & C implementing enhancement. Elizabeth explained have funds to enhance records by adding more data to the bibliographic records, such as context notes, which will improve their searchability.

Linda Hummel-Shea asked for motion. Myron Schirer-Suter made a motion to approve the FY 2010 Annual Action Plan as presented with said the change stated above. Brian Courtemanche seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **FY 2010-2012 TECHNOLOGY PLAN:**

- Ron explained there is a change on the top of page 10 first line. It stated "NOBLE will plan to replace the Innovative server ....." and it should read "replace the integrated library system server..." Ron handed out the page with the correction.
- Waiting for a couple of libraries to respond to survey and once all data is returned page 19 will be updated.
- Technology Plan is needed to receive E-rate funding and must be approved by Mass. Board of Library Commissioners. Receive approximately \$60,000 per year from e-rate. It is a 3-year plan.
- Routers at the libraries will need to be looked at and possibly replaced. \$225,000 in NOBLE's capital fund will likely be expended to meet these goals and support.
- Current telecommunication contract will be expiring at end of this technology plan and will be looking at new options available.

Linda Hummel-Shea asked for a motion. Ruth Urell made a motion to approve the FY 2010-2012 Technology Plan. Martha Holden seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **"WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT IF.....? OPEN SOURCE ILS:**

- Elizabeth gave highlight of past Open Source research. For the past 4-5 months NOBLE has been providing Wiki's and email for open source.
- Read memo from Tom Corbett of CW/MARS, *MassLNC, the Vision*. Main comment is to have library networks on the same ILS platform – ideally an Open Source library system. Resource sharing could be more efficient. It may be coming to the time that library networks like ours will not last much longer on proprietary vendors, and the time is coming to move towards Open Source.

- NOBLE, CW/MARS and MVLC are interested in starting the process to investigate this further. The goal would be to purchase the same system and work together on setting up the system. Not merging the networks, but work together in more coordinated way.
- Some advantages to Open Source ILS:
  - Get choice of support vendors. With Innovative can't get system support from anyone else but Innovative.
  - Opportunity to get type of system we want. If one network gets extra enhancement it would be for all.
  - Open Source comes with Open API, ways to get at data and do other things then current ways to get to it.
- Open floor to discussion. Ruth Urell thought exciting and logical. Elizabeth explained would be paying for someone to come in and set up the system, but could see the code to makes changes. Also if one library network "sponsors" an enhancement, then all the networks on that system benefit and able to use it as well. Whereas if give enhancement to propriety vendor for your system, vendor can turn around and sell that enhancement to other networks.
- Elizabeth suggested for directors to go the the Open Source ILS vendor sites - Koha, Libline, Evergreen, Equinox, and read or join the mailing lists. Suggested download client of Evergreen demo.
- Jeffrey Marzluft asked where CW/MARS and MVLC are in their contracts. Ron stated MVLC is soon and on dead end Dynix. CW/MARS he's not sure, they operate two separate systems.
- Ron stated NOBLE agreed conceptually to participate in "Letter of Intent" with CW/MARS and MVLC to further investigate, which is due December 1<sup>st</sup>. MBLC supports investigation of open source system. A detail of the letter is not available at this time. The letter does not commit us to anything; it's a request for a grant to research this further.
- Elizabeth added this is very early investigation stage. Doesn't want this to appear we are dissatisfied with Innovative, want it dealt with respect for our professional relationships with colleagues and vendors. A meeting would be held for NOBLE members to explain exactly what open source is.
- Ruth Urell added it is rational for networks to have same system. Patrons visit libraries in the all three networks and in terms of public service being so close geographically to other networks, it's a disservice to our patrons to be on systems that work differently.
- Karen asked if Innovative is aware that open source systems are becoming more popular. Ron stated it is not apparent since they are selling systems and continue to be the best vendor choice right now. Elizabeth feels they do see this as a competitive threat, as they are starting to lose customers. Innovative sees open source as inferior.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Pat Cirone made a motion to adjourn, Jeffrey Marzluft seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Pangallo  
Secretary