

NOBLE Executive Board Meeting Minutes Hybrid

March 12, 2025

Present: Kathy Lussier, Brian Courtemanche, Jonathan Nichols, Allison Babin, Catherine McDonald, Anna Sarneso, Theresa Hurley, Catherine Robertson

1. Call to Order

Brian called the meeting to order at 2:10.

2. Approval of Minutes

Anna made the motion to approve the minutes seconded by Catherine. All in favor.

3. Treasurer's Report

Kathy reviewed the Treasurer's Report, which included nothing unexpected. Kathy would like to review the capital accounts at the next Members' meeting.

4. Assessment Formula Review Subcommittee Report

Brian reviewed the report from the Formula Review Subcommittee. The Subcommittee looked at 23 different formulae before choosing one to recommend. The goal was to ensure fairness in any cost increases. This will take effect in FY 27.

Catherine made the motion to recommend the formula to the Members, seconded by Anna. All in favor.

5. Executive Director's Report

Kathy reviewed the Executive Director's report, which included the following:

- The E-rate program/filtering pilot project
- A contract has been signed with Equinox, to begin the process of implementing Aspen
- A Salesforce consultant will be brought in to implement a Customer Relationship Management system to better track the staff and contacts at NOBLE member libraries and a ticketing system to better track support requests
- Kathy attended a meeting with MBLC and other network administrators about concerns about federal funding. If IMLS funding is cut, this would affect grants, MBLC staff, ComCat and some statewide databases. The validity of the E-rate program is also being challenged at the Supreme Court
- Evergreen Community Development Initiative will be voting on its new strategic plan this week.

6. Gordon-Conwell

Gordon-Conwell has submitted a formal request to join NOBLE. Their ideal start date would be July 1. Kathy reviewed the information she received from a lawyer, who recommended that patron information be withheld from the out-of-state campuses. Discussion ensued.

Abby made the motion to accept Gordon-Conwell as a new member of NOBLE, seconded by Theresa. All in favor.

There was further discussion about the current Network Transfer Policy and whether or not to amend it to prevent lending to the Gordon-Conwell out-of-state campuses. It was decided to make no changes at this time.

7. Proposed Changes to Library of Congress Subject Headings

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

8. Montserrat request to discontinue EBSCO subscription

Catherine Robertson explained the budgetary challenges that Monserrat is currently facing and why they would like to opt out of their EBSCO subscription. Kathy explained the potential impact on other NOBLE libraries, as the overall cost for EBSCO subscriptions would not go down consortium-wide. Discussion ensued. Kathy was directed to draft a policy change allowing Associate Member Libraries to opt out of EBSCO databases.

9. Establishment of NOBLE Marketing Working Group

Theresa volunteered to be the Executive Board liaison.

Abby made the motion to establish a NOBLE Marketing Working Group, seconded by Allison. All in favor.

10. Policy Review

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

11. New Business

A nominating committee must be formed to appoint officers for the Vice President, President-Elect, and Clerk. Brian Courtemanche, Catherine McDonald, and Abby Porter will serve on the nominating committee.

12. Adjournment

Jonathan made the motion to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 3:57.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby Porter
Clerk