

## **NOBLE Executive Board Meeting**

**February 13, 2019**

Present: Ron Gagnon, Linda C. W. Gardener, Diane Wallace, Myron Schirer-Suter, Amy Lannon, Elizabeth Thomsen, Martha Driscoll, Brian Courtemanche (phone), Patricia Rogers, Michael Hearn, and Kathryn Geoffrion-Scannell.

### **1. Call to Order/Welcome**

The Meeting was called to order by President Linda C.W. Gardener at 2:00 pm.

**2. Approval of Minutes** Minutes for November were presented. Myron moved to approve, second by Amy, all in favor.

**3. Treasurer's Report** Minor adjustments were made in December. Nothing out of the ordinary to report.

### **4. Executive Director's Report**

Release 3.1 was loaded overnight on January 8<sup>th</sup>. This sets the stage for the web client, and training for the web client will be the focus for the spring. Staff are still working on some issues from 3.1, particularly with relevancy. We have asked Equinox for some assistance. Highlighting was implemented in the latest release.

We've signed a contract with Catalyte for "Read More" functionality. This is being funded by MassLNC funds that belong to NOBLE and CW/MARS only. Also signed for additional enhancements to the Hopeless Holds development that's being done by MassLNC with Equinox. In hardware, we've acquired a new logging server for our Evergreen installation, from budgeted server upgrade funding. Each of the seven Evergreen servers write a record of their work to this server and these files are also used for troubleshooting. This replaces a server from our original 2010 installation. There is another server under consideration for replacement as well. All are on maintenance, but at some point the maintenance becomes too expensive.

Our current EBSCO contract, which includes NoveList Select, catalog enhancement information, NoveList Plus with K-8, NextReads Newsletters and Full Text Finder, expires on June 30, 2019. This has been discussed with ERDWG recently, and they are content with current services. Ron has made contact with EBSCO to seek renewal pricing.

Ron is on an MBLC subcommittee looking at revising the formula for distribution of resource sharing funds. The committee has looked at many options and realized that network size is the greatest predictor, rather than database size, which has been a predictor. The existing formula has been frozen for a few years, and it's being recommended to continue that for another year until we see the impacts of OverDrive sharing on general resource sharing figures.

For 2020 the Governor's budget included a 1% increase for line 7000-9506, which is the resource sharing and telecommunications line that funds Noble. In early December we hired a part-time cataloger to work on the backlog of catalog records.

The Tech Expo will be held here at NOBLE on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Tomorrow is the Legislative Breakfast at Reading. About 60 people are expected. March 5<sup>th</sup> is Library Legislative Day at the State House.

## **5. Audit Changes Discussion**

CPAs set standards for audits and some standards have changed. Our auditor is reviewed by other auditors for compliance with those standards, in order to be certified. One has to do with the auditor signing off on our report, without doing the work. That's unrealistic for our situation. The other concerns separating the costs of programs, but our software doesn't provide the information. He needed to make us aware of the changes and how he's handling them.

## **6. Borrowers' Card Policy**

We're trying to rectify a few things, and one is the use of the Home Library field in the patron record. This field is used by most providers to determine the library the patron is affiliated with. Previous verification, set up by Martha, was more stringent, but the new agreement with OverDrive changes things. Evergreen by default uses the town where the patron got their card, rather than their home address for the *home library* field. The policy needs to reflect the changes, to require libraries to check that the *home library* field matches their community of residence. Martha can run a monthly report to correct errors.

The next release will have more Name fields. One is for a preferred name. This is not for a second name, it is for patron preference. A Keyword search box in the patron record can be searched for any name used.

Also, the Inclusive Group has asked about a Local Use Only card. This is about libraries being able to do what they want with their own materials. These cards would only be good at the library that gave them the card. Patrons would not be able to request other items from other libraries. It can be used by temporary residents or as a library sees fit. Resource Sharing Group also recommended this card.

It was suggested that the policy should also state that library cards belonging to a library that was decertified by the state may be declined by NOBLE libraries, depending on a vote of each library's governing body.

Voting to recommend the updates, with the amendment about decertified libraries, is Amy and second by Kathryn. All in favor.

## **7. Strategic Plan Consultants**

We are a year behind because of our move, so we need to get to work on the plan. Should we find someone to conduct a half-day focus group of members, as in the past?

Our most recent consultant is no longer available. Others have moved or changed focus. Greg Pronevitz is local and is now doing consultant work such as this. Other names were mentioned and it was suggested that several be contacted for quotes. The funds for this are in the budget.

## **8. Evergreen Development Initiative**

Running MassLNC without Kathy Lussier is a lot of work. We've have a part-time consultant through March. Evergreen Indiana is interested in taking over MassLNC' development partnership. Their overhead is lower and they will be responsible for hiring staff for project management. EI has put a lot of effort into an agreement and they're willing to take it over on July 1, 2019. We need to vote to become a part of the new entity. EI has the needed resources and they're good at this. We'd still be well-represented and have a vote on projects. We would save more than \$40,000 from what was previously budgeted. We could focus on the projects and not worry about paperwork. Noble would have four votes on project selection. NOBLE staff feels that this proposal from EI is a best case scenario.

Kathryn moved to approve, Myron seconded, all in favor. There is no need to recommend this to Members.

## **9. Assessment Formula Options**

Last fall it was suggested that we look again at the formula for assessments. The average full-member assessment is \$43,718. The formula changed when we moved to Evergreen since a good portion of the assessment is for an ILS. Having an open source ILS reduced licensing issues and associated costs.

Other networks use a wide variety of formulas. An answer is not needed today. Ron has provided a lot of information to study.

## **10. OverDrive Reciprocal Lending Update**

There have been changes, and other networks, such as Boston are also joining. OverDrive has refined the prioritization of local materials so that libraries can have holds priority on their own items. Each consortia has agreed to treat everything the same, metered or not. Massachusetts is the only state in the country doing this right now as it's being developed for rollout to others later. This will definitely impact circulation and will be interesting to see. OverDrive use is up without adding the non-Noble patrons. For example, in January we had 25,000 check-outs to Noble patrons and 3,800 to non-Noble patrons. In addition, Noble patrons borrowed 5,800 from other networks. Right now we can't run our own numbers but eventually we will be able to do that. We have the data to look for trends.

OverDrive has new messaging reflecting the changes.

## **11. Other Business**

None.

**12. Adjournment at 3:54 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Wallace  
Clerk