

NOBLE Executive Board Meeting
May 13, 2009
@ NOBLE

Attendees: Linda Hummel-Shea, Doug Rendell, Karen Pangallo, Lorraine Jackson, Martha Holden, Myron Schirer-Suter, NOBLE Ex.Dir. Ron Gagnon

- I. Call to Order** -- The meeting of the NOBLE Executive Board was called to order at 2:10 p.m. on Wednesday May 13, 2009 at NOBLE by President Linda Hummel-Shea.
- II. Approval of Minutes** – Myron made the motion to approve the Minutes; Lorraine seconded the motion; it was approved unanimously.
- III. Treasurer’s Report** – Doug and Ron reviewed the Treasurer’s report and noted that the budget is on track with 79% expended. Martha moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report; Lorraine seconded the motion; it was approved unanimously.
- IV. Executive Director’s Report** –
 - 1. Planning Day and Press Release, Meeting**—Ron shared concern regarding an official MBLC press release about the Statewide Planning Meeting in March that focused on the issue of “consolidation of regions and networks” even though that was not a major part of the meeting. Linda felt that the meeting had had an undertone about consolidation of regions but not networks. The May meeting of Network Administrators has invited Rob Maier and network presidents to discuss the issue of consolidation.
 - 2. State Budget**—Ron reviewed what is happening with the state budget up to this point. One library account amendment made it to the House FY10 budget—state aid to public libraries will see a 13.5% cut. Line 9506 is cut 13.2% and regional funding is cut 15% but most of this cut will come from the BPL. MBLC staff and talking books are level funded. The Senate budget hit the regions a bit more—down to \$12 million. Ron noted that the good news is that NOBLE received the second half of the MBLC funds, with no cuts, for this fiscal year and this money will go into next year’s budget.
 - 3. Winthrop**—Winthrop Public Library funding is waiting on the results of the May 19th override vote. Former library director John Moak is one of three finalists for position of Winthrop town manager.
 - 4. In Transit and Missing Files**—NOBLE is trying to put out a regular schedule of more frequent reports, including missing in transit items. Missing in transit items, along with missing items, will be removed from the system after one year. Lorraine asked about high numbers of DVDs in transit to and from Revere. Ron said that Michele Morgan is currently giving the Revere staff training in circulation processes.
 - 5. OverDrive Records in Catalog**—Ron noted that OverDrive records are now in the catalog with links to the titles and to the OverDrive site. Elizabeth is getting summer reading lists which she will connect to

OverDrive. Ron noted that NOBLE can bill libraries now for OverDrive for next year.

- 6. Literary Reference Center**—Since EBSCO's Literary Reference Center is being dropped by the state, NOBLE was able to secure discounted pricing for NOBLE libraries. EBSCO further reduced the price for public libraries, based on populations. Academic libraries are receiving a 40% discount off of the list price. Myron is looking at Literature Online (LION), by ProQuest.
- 7. Envisionware Demo**—Requested by Mary Ann Niles, NOBLE has arranged that Envisionware give a demonstration of its software products, PC Reservation and Print Management, on Tuesday May 19th for those libraries who want to re-consider the products.
- 8. MLA**—Ron and Elizabeth attended the MLA Annual Conference in Springfield. Ron attended sessions on open source, technology trends, library construction, and PR awards. NOBLE was well represented in PR awards with Beverly, Danvers, Everett, Wakefield, and Reading winning awards in a variety of categories. Elizabeth was busy speaking in 3 sessions about technology.
- 9. IUG**—Elizabeth will be attending the Innovative Users Group meeting in Anaheim on May 17th through May 20th.
- 10. Tech Expo**—Ron shared the current version of the schedule for the annual Tech Expo on Tuesday June 2nd.
- 11. Comcast Rollout**—The rollout continues. Lynn Public Library met with some Comcast problems but those are now resolved. Similar issues happened with Swampscott. Revere is waiting for a printer to complete the set up.

V. Interlibrary Loan Center Contract – Ron briefly reviewed history of ILL contract. NMRLS did not accept NOBLE's request for \$95,000 and counter-offered with \$87,000. Ron met with Greg Pronevitz at MLA and agreed to the \$87,000 for one year, during that time the region will look into taking bids. During the year, NOBLE will have part-time catalogers pick up the ILL work during vacations. Doug asked if NMRLS can meet the agreed to price with recent cuts from the state and Ron believes they can. Lorraine made the motion to accept, for FY10, the \$87,000 offer from NMRLS; Myron seconded the motion; it was approved unanimously.

VI. Open Source Investigation Grant and Server Grant Update – Ron updated the status of the Open Source grant. MBLC likes the proposal and has recommended the addition of Paul Kissman to the committee, which has been done. As recommended by the MBLC, the committee will use Survey Monkey to review the system's impact. MBLC asked that a cash contribution be made towards the grant. The contribution from each network is \$67,000 and the committee is now asking for \$418,750 (up from \$412,000). Although the committee is putting in money, they are raising the pool of development costs they are requesting. Martha moved that NOBLE will spend up to \$67,000 from capital to support software development and migration; Doug seconded the motion; it was approved unanimously. Regarding the Server Grant—Ron is now thinking strategically and with new technology, there may not be a need for a server or the space and utilities a server requires. Ron

discussed that NOBLE needs to consider the future and possible moves to cloud computing and other changes in network models. No report from the MBLC on the server grant at this time.

VII. Gates Broadband Summit Report – Ron, Doug, and Martha commented on the Gates Broadband Summit they attended in Newton. Summit was held to gather needs of broadband and high technology, a new Gates pilot program (which Massachusetts is the first of 7 states to participate). Discussed scenarios of connectivity. All agreed that there should have been a follow-up to the 2 days of material. Martha expressed concern that sustainability was not discussed. Doug pointed out that pockets of poor connectivity in western Massachusetts were a surprise. Discussed how this hurts small businesses in those areas but also puts a greater emphasis on the need and role of the public library for those populations.

VIII. New Business—

1. All agreed that it would be a good idea to exchange ideas on how to reward staff.

2. As promised, here is the link to subscribing to Library Link of the Day <http://www.tk421.net/librarylink/> (archive, rss, subscribe options). Good for library and library-related news as it emails one piece of information daily.

3. Also, as shown at the Gates Broadband Summit, here is the link to the 2008 Did You Know <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpEnFwiqdx8>

4. Lorraine brought up issue regarding libraries that copy CDs and then circulate the copies in interlibrary loans. There is concern that this violates copyright as well as brings up issues with regard to cooperative purchasing agreements. Ron will get the opinion of the NOBLE lawyer and share the opinion at the Members Meeting as an educational point. This may eventually result in establishing a policy regarding resource sharing and copyright.

5. Martha updated Board on the teenage CD copier. He has been identified and now the police are involved, as well as his parents. He's in trouble now.

6. Ron—no word on status of Saugus which is waiting for budget to be determined. Doug, Martha, and Lorraine gave pending budget updates for their libraries.

IX. Adjournment -- Motion to adjourn was forwarded by Lorraine, seconded by Myron, and unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Karen Pangallo
Secretary