

NOBLE Executive Board Meeting

September 14, 2016 @ NOBLE

Present: Ron Gagnon, Alan Thibeault, Linda C. W. Gardener, Kathryn Geoffrion Scannell, Diane Wallace, Brian Courtemanche, Pat Cirone, Patti Rogers, and Myron Schirer-Suter.

1. Call to Order/Welcome

The Meeting was called to order by President Alan Thibeault at 2:10 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve August minutes by Brian, seconded by Linda. Unanimously approved.

3. Executive Director's Report

Ron presented detailed information for the FY18 Budget. He noted that the past five years have been very good years. There will be no surplus this year due to tight budgeting and a loss of \$39,000 from MBLC for FY16 and FY17. Some other figures are still unknown at this point. Increases in NOBLE site costs due to snow in 2015 as well.

Resource sharing distribution, which could be \$100,000 is undergoing a formula change. Staff health insurance increased by \$17,000 due to one additional staff member needing insurance coverage. Office insurance increased 38% over the past three years. Utility and telecommunications costs are down due to newer efficient HVAC and lighting equipment and a new telecomm vendor (FTG). Low rate with FTG will continue for three years.

Would like to increase bandwidth to libraries within this budget if possible. ALA recommends 100 MB, libraries currently have 50 MB. There are no longer Virtual Catalog costs. MBLC is covering all costs of the Commonwealth Catalog. MassLNC is expanding nationally and will have more funds from other sources. Ron is also applying for a \$10,000 grant from Ebsco for work on Evergreen catalog. Overall, Evergreen costs remain steady. Ron still feels that Open Source is the way to go.

Salary survey among networks showed NOBLE to be middle of the road. No NOBLE staff retirements on the horizon. Proposing 1.5% COLA increases. Proposed budget includes \$30,000 from our capital funds. Ron is always looking for places to save money, but there are few places left that haven't been tackled previously. All increases come from cuts at the state level.

Pat Cirone moved to accept FY18 proposed budget, Myron seconded and all approved.

4. Overdrive.

Overdrive usage was up 28% in FY16 over the previous year. It continues to be a popular and cost-effective service at \$.72.6 per circulation. Handouts show options for FY18 funding by library. The voted budget maintains the status quo. Always more demands for titles and copies of existing titles in the system. Libraries made \$42,803 in contributions to the Overdrive fund in FY16. There was a lengthy discussion on the selection of ebooks and how to best serve patrons. Ron presented information comparing NOBLE Overdrive costs to peer networks and we underspent those networks. There will be more information available next month.

PC support budget has a recommended increase from 5% to 7% in the surcharges on Envisionware products. Patti Rogers moved to accept 2% increase in surcharge, Linda seconded and all approved.

Alan asked how NOBLE finances look beyond FY18. Ron doesn't see anything drastic lining up.

5. Working Groups

The groups were approved last month, but there is a need for an Exec Board liaison for all each. ERDWG has three executive committee members already. Patti Rogers volunteered to join the Collection Development committee and Alan will see if Martha Holden is interested in covering Resource Sharing and if not, Brian could possibly cover.

There is no other business. Meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Wallace

Clerk