SLC Advisory Board of Librarians (ABL)
August 15, 2021
10:00am CST/11:00am EST
Draft Minutes
Meeting recording available online: https://youtu.be/e3_3b5IkFVM

I. Introductions/Comments –

II. Andrea Ingmire, PWPL; Megan Buck, DCL; Jessica Holman, Neguanee; Pam Malmsten, Jesse Shirtz, Ishpeming; Lynne Wiercinski, Ironwood; Blair Nelson, Spies Public Library; Alycia McKowen, St Ignace; Lisa Crommell, Munising School Public Library; Eric Magness-Eubank, Alpena Public Library

III. Minutes from Previous Meeting (July 13, 2021) – Accepted with no changes.

IV. SLC Committees
a. Database Committee Report – Pam reported that the Database committee met and reviewed Kanopy as a cooperative subscription. Kanopy did offer a good deal, if we spend $41,000 a year we’ll get 10 uses and unlimited great courses and Kanopy kids. A survey went out to gauge interest, only 14 responses were returned. Survey to be resent in October. Pam also discussed the status of Overdrive magazines. This cannot be parsed out from the regular overdrive platform. SLC will cover $17,500 which is the total cost of keeping Overdrive magazines, and will not rebill this year. The committee will re-evaluate next year. Bookmarks and promo items coming soon.

b. Schedule of Services Committee – Eric commended that Pam’s draft covered everything the committee had reviewed. The committee kept revisions minor, trusting that Dillon would have input on the next plan of service. Pam will enter Board of Director info once the deadline for submitting board member appointment passes.

c. List of roundtable topics – (discussed at end of meeting) The ABL directors think that it might finally be time to roll out the roundtable topics. Andrea will send out an email to ABL directors to see if we can choose a ‘regular’ day of week/time of day to hold these. We will start with bi-weekly meetings. Megan has 8 topics, so that is 4 months of content. We will start with a list of topics and dates and expand from there.

V. Updates from SLC Director/SLC Staff – Pam M.

a. Budget revision 2021 – Big surplus in wages due to being very understaffed. A good bit of this will go to MERS surplus division $30,000. In addition to the budgeted $20,000 the cooperative will have $50,000 going to MERS surplus, assuming budget revisions are approved by SLC board. Additional $20,000 to Overdrive collection, and adjusted a few other line items to try and take care of other spendable items in this FY. Next FY is a tighter budget. There is a small leak in the roof that will need to be repaired, the fee for this is a modest $150.

b. Schedule of Services FY2022 – Pam reviewed in more detail the Schedule of service changes. This includes a $6,000 subsidy to Kanopy; covering overdrive magazines, slight reduction in overdrive book $ and program committee $.

c. FY 2022 Budget – Pam reviewed the upcoming FY budget. In general, it is a tighter budget as we have full staffing anticipated! 2% wage increase proposed for staff. For now, SLC to subsidize Microsoft 365, and not rebill. Slate floor in entry needs to be replaced. There is a $22,000 deficit in the budget. $20,000 is due to MERS pay down and $2000 for floor repairs.

VI. Old Business (if any)

a. UPRLC Conference Dates 2021 – September 27-29th at PWPL – (discussed later in meeting) Andrea reported that the UPRLC committee asked Peter White to make a decision about the conference being held in person/virtual, as some are getting nervous about the conference going on as planned. In general, no one is sure how to feel about URPLC being held in person. There is much concern about the status of COVID in our communities and schools. Lynne from Ironwood shared
that her Health Department is advising anyone who travels to quarantine for 5 days upon their return. Andrea will make a decision and report to the UPRLC committee ASAP.

b. Report from ABL Representation on SLC Finance Committee – None to report
c. Report from ABL Representation on Personnel Committee – None to report

VII. New Business
a. Welcome Dillon Geshel as SLC Director. His first day will be 8/27/2021. We simply cannot wait for Dillon to join SLC, good things are coming!!
b. Any other new Directors in our cooperative – no new members. Thea Murray from Alanson has taken another job, we are sad to see her go.

VIII. Communication and Collaboration
a. COVID Questions/Answers/Support – We discussed UPRLC concerns; As well as many other covid related things. Including status of in-person programming; masking for programs etc. Watch recording for full discussion.
b. Programs/Promotion – Ishpeming starting Bean Sack website for tracking reading. Those using the app can earn badges etc for reading. Blair from Spies Library getting on a radio show bi-weekly. If you are a partner library for Big Read Marty has sent out books via Rides!
c. Think Tank Time

d. b. Program/Promotion – Ishpeming starting Bean Sack website for tracking reading. Those using the app can earn badges etc for reading. Blair from Spies Library getting on a radio show bi-weekly. If you are a partner library for Big Read Marty has sent out books via Rides!

c. Think Tank Time

IX. Next ABL Meeting Date – October 13, 2021, 10am CST/11am EST
a. Director Chat date - will be replaced by Roundtable discussion.

X. Adjournment 12:10 pm EST