

Maine InfoNet Board Meeting

Maine State Library Studio, Augusta, Maine

May 10, 2017

Members Present: Joyce Rumery (chair), David Nutty, James Ritter, Sarah Campbell, James Jackson Sanborn, Pauline Angione, Barbara McDade, Douglas MacBeth, Richard Thompson, Judith Frost and Nancy Grant

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Minutes from the April 10, 2017 InfoNet meeting were approved

I. **Update on conversations with Innovative**

- Since last meeting, we have had three calls with Travis and Hillary at Innovative. We are getting closer, but don't have a final complete package of paperwork from them.
- James Jackson Sanborn asked about the possibility of having the court of jurisdiction on the contract moved from New York to Maine. He hoped to have something by today, but expects something soon.
- David Nutty expressed concern about the timeline for implementation and inquired about why the company wasn't more interested in getting the contract signed. He asked James to follow-up with Travis at the earliest opportunity to ensure that we are ready to go before July 1.
- We learned on our last conference call that Hillary at Innovative will be moving to a new position within the company. We've had a long history with her and it is unfortunate that we won't be working with her now.

Infonet submitted a grant proposal earlier this month to the Next Generation Foundation to support adding small and rural libraries to MaineCat.

Lisbon library goes live with MILS this month. Staff are on-site at the library today for training. We expect that KVCC will be up by July 1, bringing the consortium up to 12 members. Old Orchard and Springvale will be added this fall.

Infonet is working with Jen Alvino and Steve Norman to open Minerva to new members. Yarmouth and Maine Maritime are interested in being part of the system.

New purchases are being made for the download library. Similar to previous years, we saw a dip in borrowing between March and April, but circulation has dipped YTD as well. A portion of this decline can be attributed to the longer (three week) checkout period on titles that are being renewed. The Kindle non-compatibility is also a probable cause of the dip. At the moment, 217 libraries are part of the download library.

We are looking at strategies that will allow additional growth in the cloud library collection. One option would be to purchase additional titles with Maine Public Library Fund revenues. It is important that we are able to keep up with patron demand.

James Jackson Sanborn noted that he is looking at having an accountant do a review of accounts and practices at InfoNet and wanted the committee's input on that process. It will be a good opportunity for us to identify any areas where we need to improve financial procedures and provide transparency to those who rely on our services.

Balsam Libraries

Jamie Ritter has participated in a couple of meetings with representatives from the Balsam consortium to explore ways that InfoNet might be able to provide services to support the consortium and position the group to bring in other partners. It is clear that the system fills an important niche for small and rural libraries – institutions with around 20,000 titles.

There are a number of factors that need to be considered moving forward and the board will include this as a topic of conversation at the summer retreat.

Library Director's Summit

The committee did not have the opportunity to meet in the last month. Joyce Rumery suggested that this would be a good topic for the retreat. We need to spend time thinking about what would be most useful in terms of professional development opportunities. Sarah Campbell suggested that the committee think about a structure for best facilitating the conversation at the retreat.

Board Retreat

David Nutty reminded members that the board retreat is scheduled for July 10, 2017 in Portland.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 PM.