Maine InfoNet Board meeting 4/5/21

Start time 1:30pm
Jaime Ritter absent

Item 1: Approved notes from March meeting
Nancy motioned, Joyce seconded

Item 2: Financial committee report was primarily that they had reviewed in-depth the IRS 990, which was forwarded on to the Board for its approval today. After asking a few clarifying questions and noting the officers were listed incorrectly on the Board roster; James will update. James answered questions. The Board then unanimously approved with noted changes to the IRS 990 form. No other reports from the finance committee.

Item 3: There was a wide ranging discussion of the meeting with Innovative leadership. Among the comments were:

- Expression of disappointment that more is not being done with user interface. Webpack won’t be developed further.
- It is promising that INNReach is being further developed and could provide a way for systems to stay connected for MaineCat.
- James noted that at IUG it was all VEGA, all the time. He also noted that Mobius put out an RFP, and III’s response was that Alma would be the solution, not Sierra.
- There was speculation that for the larger academic libraries Alma might be the preferred product. Smaller academic libraries or mixed consortia might prefer Sierra. Public libraries, it might be Polaris.
- James said he’s keeping a close eye on Project Reshare which is an open source INNReach product. III will be releasing a new mobile app which is based on a third party app.
- The Board engaged in some reflections on the future of Maine InfoNet’s structures and how that may change as systems change. There was a comment that because most of us have to be all things to all people, we aim for a middle ground on searching which often doesn’t serve any user really well. Fundamentally there is a need to know how to do basic searching. It can’t be simply a OneSearch box.

Item 4: James presented his executive director’s report, which is available on the shared drive. He noted ComicsPlus rollout is taking longer than expected due to some authentication issues and confusion about what can be offered to schools. James
responded to questions about the Download Library and total number of unique titles. Noted that he is needing to spend a fair portion of the acquisition budget to re-buy content that has reached its circulation limit. On the plus side there are now 60 private clouds by individual libraries.

Item 5: David asked for input for James Jackson Sanborn’s annual review by Friday 4/9.

Item 6: Other business. Nancy reported that Balsom is adding a new public library in Unity. Bringing Balsom’s total number to 40

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm.