

### **Maine InfoNet Board Meeting 12/6/2021**

Meeting commenced at 1:33pm. All members present except for Sarah Campbell and Diane Nadeau.

**Item 1:** November meeting notes were approved with one correction. Marjorie Hassen's first name was originally misspelled.

**Item 2:** Lex Dennis from Bendable joined the meeting to give the group an update. He reported four Fellows have been hired. Their focus is on building content and identifying local content. They are also working on employer content and will have an employer meeting. Lex demonstrated an example of the career collection from the South Bend Bendable: Becoming a Welder (40 hour series of modules). Janet commented that Bendable should not duplicate the badges that are already existing in Maine as created by Community Colleges and UMS. Lex assured us they were sensitive to not duplicating work, but rather amplifying work that is already done.

**Item 3:** Change of ARPA strategy. Jamie learned at a COSLA meeting that IMLS needs all ARPA projects fully completed by September 30th. Our strategy of hiring two employees for two years will not work.

Jamie and James have reconsidered our project strategy and James went through details of the new strategy, which are found in his December 21 Executive Director's report in MIN shared folder. He spent most of the time discussing how we will switch strategies for the contracted migration services to an outsourced strategy. He surveyed 26 likely library candidates who might be moved to or join MILS about their interest level, and heard back from 15. 13 said yes, they were interested, and 2 said no. James and Jamie also met with Polaris about whether the vendor could bring these 15 libraries into the Polaris ILS in a timely fashion, in a completely outsourced managed process. These are libraries that are mostly in Follett or Destiny systems. Next step will be to follow up with 10 libraries who did not respond, as well as receive a quote from Polaris on the work. See the Exec. Director's report for details on 4 other strategies which remain in place.

**Item 4:** James did contract for the BestMarc tool. It has already been used to aid in the Goodall Library migration. One way in which board members may be asked to assist James is to be a second reader of contract proposals. If board members are contacted, please assist James in any way you can. Time is of the essence.

**Item 5:** The morning keynote for the MLA pre-conference in May has been confirmed. The Executive Director of the Telling Room in Portland will be happy to make a presentation about the Telling Room and the nature of that work, and will also bring 4 or 5 student authors to do readings and talk about the experience. The Exec Director agreed to a \$500 honorarium, plus travel. Thanks to Sarah Campbell for her work on this.

**Item 6:** There was no finance committee meeting this month. Treasurer Ben Treat said all is well financially.

**Item 7:** Brief conversation about the consolidation of industry with Clarivate purchasing ProQuest.

**Item 8:** Marjorie reported that work continues with CCB on their investigation of ILS systems.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07pm.