

Maine InfoNet Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 12 at 1:30 p.m. by Zoom

The meeting was called to order at about 1:30 by Steve Norman.

Attending were James Jackson Sanborn, Marianne Thibodeau, Marijke Visser, Ben Treat, Marjorie Hassen, Nancy Grant, Diane Nadeau, and Janet Sortor (who had to leave at 2:00). Bryce Cundick could not attend.

Marijke Visser (representing Maine State Library) and Marianne Thibodeau (representing University of Maine Libraries) were welcomed as new interim representatives on the board. Marjorie will handle an orientation to InfoNet with Marijke, who will continue to be involved with InfoNet as part of her MSL duties.

The board agreed that Steve should continue as Acting Chair for now until the new permanent MSL and UMaine board members arrive, at which point a new Chair can be chosen.

Nancy moved and Janet seconded that the June 6 minutes be approved. Motion carried.

There was no report from the Finance Committee because missing from the committee are Jamie Ritter, Joyce Rumery, and Sarah Campbell—leaving only Ben Treat (as Treasurer) and James Jackson Sanborn. The next report from this committee will await a new and improved reconstituted board.

James elaborated on the chart he had distributed to report on the ARPA funds. He highlighted \$45,000 for InfoNet overhead (for accounting, insurance, and other potential administrative expenses), which is less than the usual amount allowed for overhead on this kind of grant, and \$50,000 for Van Delivery.

James reported on the progress of the ARPA projects. MILS was live on Polaris on the scheduled date of August 31. James thought and Diane agreed that the migration went well. Diane said that her library had sent in some tickets, but that they were being acted on. James said that Polaris requires a lot of new learning—especially in cataloging—both for libraries and InfoNet staff. The InfoNet staff know Triple-I inside and out, but not Polaris at this point.

MILS will go live with MaineCat borrowing on September 21. Walk-in reciprocal borrowing is expected to start in December, once the API (P2IR) has been developed.

Work has begun to migrate 14 new libraries into MILS. The new MILS libraries will go live in waves from October through February.

MILS authority work by Backstage is completed. MILS record enhancements by MitiNet are completed. Minerva record enhancements by MitiNet are in process (in fact, received and soon to be implemented). MILS and Minerva deduping by MitiNet is in process.

The Blue Hill Public Library API is working well. Progress is in various stages with the work on Evergreen, Apollo/Biblionix, Balsam, and the Koha-based consortia.

A small group of board members (Nancy, Marianne, and Steve) will meet with James to help firm up the InfoNet policies discussed at the spring MLA pre-conference workshop.

James reported on the search to fill the new position of Library Systems Support/Resource Sharing Specialist. 21 applications have been received and are under review.

James also reported on the apparent resolution to a string of system slowdowns affecting Minerva in the spring and early summer. Following much communication with Triple-I about the issue, additional hosting resources were devoted to the system. That seemed to fix the problem.

URSUS has received responses to its RFP. Scoring of the RFPs is to be completed by September 16. Presentations from selected ILS vendors will happen in October. Daisy Dominguez Singh is the new Dean of Libraries at the University of Maine and will start in October. Zach Newell is the new Dean of Libraries at USM has started already.

Colby-Bates-Bowdoin has signed a contract with Ex Libris and will be migrating to Alma. Alma will still work with InnReach, but on-site reciprocal borrowing will not be available until February 2024, by which time the enabling API is expected to be developed.

There was discussion of the MOBIUS system's move to EBSCO Folio and ReShare Returnables.

Download Library audiobook circulation continues to rise, while ebook circulation stays steady. There was discussion of aggravating ebook licensing practices, which continue to make more content's licenses expire sooner. What to do? Repurchase expired content or purchase new content?

Marijke gave an update on van delivery. There are some hopeful signs with the recent relenting of diesel prices.

James reported that about \$600 is being added to insurance expenditures for coverage for employment practices for the "leased" (that is, contracted) employees.

The meeting adjourned at about 2:50.

Next meeting: October 3 at 1:30 p.m.