

Maine InfoNet Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 5 at 1:30 p.m. at the Maine State Library

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

Attending were James Jackson Sanborn, Marijke Visser, Ben Treat, Nancy Grant, Bryce Cundick, Daisy Singh, and Steve Norman. Janet Sortor attended by Zoom. Marjorie Hassen and Diane Nadeau could not attend.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November meeting. Motion carried.

The Finance Committee did not have a detailed report yet (still awaiting repopulation), but Ben confirmed that InfoNet's bills have been paid and the organization is solidly in the black.

James reported on progress on the grant from the Maine State Library for MaineCat improvement and expansion. The timing of the new Polaris migrations and payment for those migrations still needs to be worked out with MSL with regards to the grant's deadlines. The Biblionix/Apollo project is going very well and apparently is ready for "sand box exit" testing, after which nine or ten libraries should be set to connect with MaineCat. The cost for the "Sebago Lake consortium" should be well within the estimated amount (and even the estimated price was a good deal for the libraries). Progress on the grant and related expenditures is looking good.

The board discussed the draft Maine InfoNet policies at length and reviewed the policies one by one.

Incorporating a change suggested in the survey sent out to MaineCat libraries, a revision was made to the language in Policy #1 (MaineCat Participation Requirements). "Access to MaineCat cannot substitute for a strong local collection" was changed to "Interlibrary loan through MaineCat cannot substitute for a strong local collection."

The alternate loan rule used for DVDs by CBB libraries was discussed, but the consensus was that Policy #3 (MaineCat Loan Rules Coordination) could remain as it stood in the draft.

With Policy #4 (Responsibility for Lost/Stolen/Damaged Items), the divergence from the ALA document "Interlibrary Loan Code of the United States" was noted. Importantly, that code was not written with MaineCat's volume of business in mind. Also, the matter of MSL's responsibility for lost or damaged in transit items is not widely known or understood. Marijke thought that the policy as written is acceptable for the present but should be monitored in the future for problems with the implementation.

Policy #5 (MaineCat/InnReach Billing) generated the most discussion. Janet asked about problems with especially high value items that have been lent then billed. The decision finally

was that the policy was acceptable but should have some explanatory notes to clarify certain points, and a “what-if?” note about exceptionally high value items.

Bryce moved and Nancy seconded that the policies be approved with the tweaks that had been specified. The motion carried unanimously.

The committee on privacy/collection development/intellectual freedom policies did not meet in the past month but will reconvene in the new year. Ben had contacted Chris Herpers at CloudLibray and was told that there is the capability for turning on filters for certain audiences.

James reported that he informed III that InfoNet and MaineCat were interested in being a Beta test partner for the InnReach software. Although James is not normally eager to be a Beta test partner, he thinks this is a good idea now with all of MaineCat’s disparate platforms coming together. MaineCat also will get code problems fixed earlier as a Beta test partner.

The next meeting should have on the agenda discussion of meeting dates and modes of meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.