

NETWORK ADVISORY COUNCIL (NAC) MEETING

Tuesday, March 8, 2011
Grizzly Room, Montana State Library, Helena
9:30 am - 4:00 pm

ATTENDEES:

Council Members: Brett Allen, Gale Bacon, Colet Bartow, Barry Brown, Beth Chestnut, Bob Cooper (Chair), Renee Goss (by telephone), Joan Hantz, Debbi Kramer, Molly Kruckenberg, Kathy Mora, Bruce Newell, Richard Quillin, Brian Rossmann, Ann Rutherford

MSL Staff: Ken Adams, Donna Caban, Tracy Cook, Jo Flick, Sarah McHugh, Darlene Staffeldt, and Jennie Stapp

Chairperson Cooper called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Welcome/Introductions/Housekeeping/Changes or Additions to Agenda/Approval of Minutes from meeting on November 9, 2010

Introduction of new Statewide Training Specialist Jo Flick. She began work on March 7.

Motion by Quillin, Second by Newell: Accept the minutes from the November 9, 2010 meeting with the one correction that Lyn Mckinney be removed from the list of those in attendance. Motion passed.

Cooper announced that he will be retiring from the State Library on May 1st. He will be on vacation for most of April, so April 1 is his last day in the office. MSL will advertise the open position within the next two weeks. Cooper expressed his thanks to the Council for the great number of things he had learned by being part of this group for many years.

ITEM 1: RFP for Statewide Databases Final Draft

McHugh explained that the final draft of the RFP the statewide databases will go to State Procurement tomorrow for review. We are hoping to avoid a multi-day RFP response marathon this year by having more elements of the review process available online.

Newell commented that OCLC is holding prices this coming year the same for Montana libraries; the third year in a row OCLC has done so in response to the economic realities of the times. The potential responders to this RFP most certainly are aware of the effect the national economic downturn has had on libraries and their responses should reflect that awareness.

Further discussion focused on the need to maintain a solid core of databases that meets the basic information needs of the most citizens. If the money available is insufficient to obtain an array of specialty databases at least the basic needs will be met. Most used should be our blueprint for what to buy. Suggestions to consider in the RFP: access by mobile devices, citation management, will work with OCLC Webscale Services, Web 2.0 ability, geo location option, discoverable on Google, Twitter, and Facebook.

ITEM 2: Recommendations for acceptance of new MSC library applicants – VOTING ITEM

Motion by Newell, Second by Mora to recommend acceptance of all 6 MSC applicants as presented. Motion passed. [Those libraries are: Stillwater County Library (Columbus), Lolo School District, Fallon County Library (Baker), Henry A. Malley Memorial Library (Broadus), Prairie County Library (Terry), and Ekalaka Public Library.]

Discussion ensued regarding the need to match the intake of new libraries into the MSC with the ability of staff to maintain a quality level of support to existing MSC member libraries. The future of the MSC and its manageability were also discussed briefly with the acknowledgement that a more in depth look at the future of the MSC, the plan for its growth, and its overall manageability should be included in future NAC agenda.

Adams added that we have 1 more library joining the MSC but with its own funds, Whitefish Community Library.

The Council advised MSL that in the future, because adding new libraries to the MSC was mostly a matter of application review by MSC and MSL staff, the Council should no longer be involved in the reviewing and scoring of new MSC applications and this should become on future NAC agenda a consent item only.

ITEM 3: LSTA FY 11 budget recommendations – VOTING ITEM

The lifespan of FY 11 LSTA federal funds is October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2012; thus, 6 months availability of these funds has already passed. However, because of activity currently underway in the U.S. Congress, it is unclear when an exact total of Montana's LSTA award will be known. MSL is suggesting that the Council consider the LSTA FY 11 budget in two or three phases over the coming months as more information becomes known.

Motion by Newell, Second by Rutherford to recommend approval of the LSTA FY 11 budget as presented leaving an unassigned balance of an estimated \$106,498.00 to be dealt with at a future date when more information regarding LSTA funding is available. Motion passed.

Kramer indicated that tools like Homework Help and Optimal Resume were important to small public libraries and should figure into purchases. These libraries are in the main not using HeritageQuest.

Newell emphasized the importance that the State Library and the Council in considering future purchases of content and services use a systematic approach to partner with other states.

Staffeldt updated the Council on COSLA main issues: LSTA funding and Overdrive issues.

ITEM 4: LSTA FY 10 budget reallocations – VOTING ITEM

Cooper referred the Council to the support memo for this item that was part of the posted materials for this meeting. The amount of FY 10 LSTA that needs reallocation and expenditure by September 30, 2011 is \$35,144.00.

Discussion on using these funds for a variety of projects ensued. Brown reminded the Council of previous discussions stressing the importance of the Council continuing to look for funds to support the MT-OCLC Group Services contract at the \$60,000.00 level. Strong interest was also voiced by several Council members to consider support the Courier Pilot if the proposed funding for that project from the current legislative session does not happen. Additional monies going to the Open Resolver / Discovery Tool Pilot Project and a small amount to MontanaLibrary2Go were also discussed. The Council expressed its discomfort with making a recommendation for this reallocation until the status of of FY 11 LSTA funding was known.

Motion by Kramer, Second by Quillin to delay the decision on recommendations for reallocation of remaining FY 10 LSTA funds until the May 2011 meeting of the Council. Motion passed.

Newell mentioned that although OCLC has been able to hold its service costs to libraries flat through FY 2012 to assist local libraries in dealing with the economic downturn, in FY 2013 a cost increase from OCLC in the range of 4% can be anticipated.

ITEM 5: MSL Projects Brief Updates:

A brief overview and call for questions or comments regarding several update reports posted as part of the meeting materials was conducted for the following:

Montana Shared Catalog (Ken Adams)

BTOP Public Computing Center Projects (Bob Cooper)

Mora commented that we really have to compliment MSL BTOP Staff Donci Bardash and Sarah Elkins for staying in touch with libraries and providing helpful support.

Goss added a big “yahoo” for the BTOP-provided touch screen computers that just arrived at her library in Sidney and expressed her agreement with Mora’s comment about the good job MSL BTOP staff are doing.

Ready2Read Early Literacy Projects (Sara Groves and Bob C)

Other Statewide Projects (Sarah McHugh)

McHugh also briefed the Council on her recent trip to Illinois as a participant in an “I Lead U” session at Illinois State Library sponsored by an IMLS Grant to State Libraries. She said she is now more aware how leadership in libraries can keep libraries relevant to their communities. She noted that while our roles and how we do things are changing, it is important to remember that it’s not about the tools: technology is not driving us, we’re driving technology, or at least we should be.

State Librarian update

Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian, highlighted a few items from the MSL Spring 2011 update. In referring to Council Chairperson Bob Cooper’s announcement that he would be retiring from MSL on May 1, 2011, she assured the Council that a national level search to find a replacement would be launched in the next week or so. She indicated that she hoped to have a person hired by the time the Council meets in May. She invited Council members to take part in a retirement celebration/reception for Bob on March 29th at the State Library from 1-4 p.m.

Chairperson Cooper adjourned the meeting at 2:55 pm