

Minutes
Partners Meeting
October 6, 2011 10:51

Roll Call:

Bitterroot – Trista Smith
Drummond – absent
FCL – Kim Crowley, Patti Jones
Glendive Public Library – Dawn Kingstad
HFL – Mitch Grady
LCL – Sami Pierson, Anna Doyle
Mineral County – Guna Chaberek
Miles City Public Library – Sonja Woods, Hannah Nash
Miles City Community College – Ann Rutherford
Missoula Public Library – Honore Bray, Elizabeth Jonkel
North Lake (Polson) – Marilyn Trosper
NVPL – absent
Rosebud/BLC – Mary Kay Bullard
Frenchtown branch (MPL) – Steve White
Whitefish Community Library – Joey Kositzky

Guests:

MSL – Sarah McHugh
MSC – Melody Condron, Amy Marchwick, Ken Adams
Lolo K-8 – Jody Christoph
Libby Public Schools – Marlene Kelch
Twin Bridges – Betty Humbert
Fallon County – Vera Abrams
Ekalaka Public Library – Janet Livingston

Approval of August 9, 2011 minutes:

Crowley (FCL) moved to accept the minutes.
Smith (Bitterroot) seconded the motion.
Minutes approved.

Schools joining Partners:

Condron (MSC) asked for feedback about rules for schools joining Partners and discussion on what kind of expectations need to be spelled out regarding circulating v. non-circulating collections. General discussion commenced, with concerns about schools being able to list non-Partners-circulating materials in the catalog. All libraries in partners have items that do not circ, but Jonkel (MPL) pointed out that all their non-holdable popular items had duplicates that do circ normally. Professional/educational collections that circulate among teachers only and technology were specifically mentioned and Crowley (FCL) suggested that that would have to be discussed with school authority figures, i.e. principals, school boards. Condron (MSC) said that schools

will also have to commit to staffing so that holds will be pulled at least once per week even in the summer/over holidays.

McHugh (MSC) suggests that we direct schools to the Partners guidelines and their mentors for now.

Limiting Item Type Drop Down Menus:

Pierson (LCL) reminded everyone that the MSC staff will limit the drop-down list for each library to only item-types that they use. This helps make cataloging more consistent and Marchwick (MSC) added it would prevent miss-clicking on new item types and messing up circulation. MSC can also limit user profiles types and categories as well. Condrion (MSC) remarked that Partner libraries use more item-types than they need and that as a long-term plan should consider some form of standardization for common types. Condrion (MSC) reminded everyone to use “Video-rec” for VHS and one of the DVD item-types for DVD materials; “Audio-rec” for cassette tapes and one of the CD item types for CD audiobooks. This will make the icons in the catalog match the format of the items and help patrons.

Pierson (LCL) asked Partner libraries to vote on whether they would like their types limited. All present voted in favor.

MSC staff will limit items for all those libraries who requested it.

Condrion (MSC) is asking new Partners to use item types that are already in-use. She will send out a list of the in-use item types for current Partners to look at.

Overdues and Lost Items:

Jones (FCL) asked that long-overdue collection notices list *all* Partners materials that a patron has defaulted on, not only those of the library attempting to collect. Condrion (MSC) said that they could change that setting for the system.

Pierson (LCL) moved to make the change.

Woods (MCPL) seconded.

All present voted in favor.

Shipping Containers:

Pierson (LCL) asked for thoughts on the shipping containers. There have been some problems with books getting dirty or wet in transit. Bray (MPL) said that the shipping containers for the pilot project were bad. Woods (MCPL) suggested a lid or fabric covering for the current containers with the addresses on them. Nash (MCPL) said that garbage bags would make good bin liners for the current containers and may be a stopgap for Partners to use while looking for a better option.

Crowley (FCL) is continuing to pursue a written contract with Rimrock Stages and McHugh (MSL) will help if needed and look into the progress on alternative delivery methods. Woods (MCPL) asked her to check whether the buses would ship half-crates for half price. Pierson (LCL) asked everyone to start looking into other shipping container options. General discussion agreed that the containers should be stackable, foldable (or otherwise easy/ designed to break down for less space).

Other business:

Bray (MPL) reported that Great Falls, Helena, Butte, and Lewis & Clark all would like to join the bus system for their own interlibrary loans. They are free to make their own arrangements, but Partners has not yet straightened things out with the bus company. Bray (MPL) pointed out that while it would make more work for the hubs to hold or transfer materials for non-Partners libraries, it would be a show of good faith. McHugh (MSL) is still looking into other options like Orbis Cascade, and wants Partners to be ready with alternatives, should the bus company balk. Condron (MSC) is collecting estimates of expenses for various couriers and Liz Babbit (MSL) is working on the Statewide Project.

Pierson (LCL) officially resigned as Partners chair. She has taken a position in Coos Bay, Oregon. Dawn Kingstad (GPL) will be the new chair, but requested nominations for a new vice-chair. Bray (MPL) nominated Trista Smith (Bitterroot), who accepted.

Adams (MSC) reported that Mineral County recently added a branch in Alberton, Missoula Public Library added the WOW (Web on Wheels) mobile internet branch and will be adding a public branch at the Lolo School. Ekalaka, Terry, and Baker will be joining Partners.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Next meeting will be December 13 at noon and be held by phone.