

Maine Infonet Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 1, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at the Maine State Library

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

Attending were James Jackson Sanborn, Nancy Grant, Bryce Cundick, Daisy Singh, Lori Fisher, Kevin Smith, Ben Treat, Diana Furukawa, and (by Zoom) Steve Norman.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Motion by Steve, second by Kevin that Diana Furukawa be appointed to the MIN board. Motion was unanimously approved.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, James reported that an annual budget year-to-year is being prepared. Procurement of a debit card was approved but the immediate need for it (QuickBooks online) could be purchased with an e-check, so actually getting a card has been delayed to allow for policy development. MIN's Quickbooks program has been converted from the desktop version to the cloud version. The billing capabilities will be better with the cloud version, which will be a huge help for CloudLibrary billing—and will save James's time, too.

James will be attending ICOLC in Anaheim in mid-April. There will be colleagues from other multi-type consortia and great information there. James noted that, paradoxically, Clarivate's purchase of both Triple-I and Ex Libris has been helpful in a way, even though it is a vertical and horizontal acquisition. The regulatory barriers that had been created between Triple-I and Ex Libris as part of the FTC approval of their earlier merger created a kind of worst of both worlds scenario where useful information did not get communicated between the two entities.

Vassalboro and Lyman will be going live on MILS on April 2.

Kevin noted that the reciprocal walk-in borrowing API from Alma is not working as expected. It malfunctions multiple times every day. C-B-B received no response about the problem by going through the normal channels to Ex Libris but finally received some satisfaction after sending an unceremonious letter.

James's report from the INN-Reach Customer Advisory Board meeting is that INN-Reach will be going away. The plan is to merge INN-Reach functionality into Rapido. A lot of work remains to be done before that will happen. Standing meetings will help to smooth that eventual transition for MaineCat. The San Diego multi-type library consortium has been a good model for addressing glitches with INN-Reach and different linked ILS platforms.

For the URSUS academics, the migration to Alma/Primo is underway. The sign-up sheet for training days (April 9 – 12) was posted as James headed to Augusta for today's meeting. The go-live date on the new system is June 12. MaineCat requesting will be turned off for the URSUS academics a week before go-live. UMaine will not be back in the MaineCat catalog until September.

Kevin reported on a draft of a privacy policy he had sent out. Good progress is being made. There was discussion of the State privacy statute and its difficult, perplexing punctuation. Kevin will make a second pass at a draft and see what the feedback is. There was extensive discussion of the scenario where a court order is served on one library for another library's patron information. The consensus was that a MIN

privacy policy would not need approval by the individual components within MaineCat (unlike the MaineCat Policies, which went through a long approval and vetting process before adoption).

Lori is willing to have conversations with CloudLibrary's CEO at PLA regarding issues with CloudLibrary—for example, CloudLibrary's incompatibility with Amazon Kindle. She might note that Overdrive could still be an option. James reviewed the history and reasons for Infonet's switch from Overdrive to CloudLibrary. As it turned out, much content purchased with perpetual access licenses at Overdrive was lost in the migration to CloudLibrary because many of those licenses were no longer available. In a nutshell, migrating back to Overdrive is probably not a good solution to any problems existing or experienced with CloudLibrary. Lori observed that not enough funds are being spent on content now. Content will keep dwindling. Perhaps a different tiered system of costs for libraries could be implemented. Ben noted that Bangor spends \$44,000 on Private Cloud. Lori said that perhaps that can be viewed as a good use of ARRC funds.

The van delivery RFP was released in March. It is now in the "taking questions" phase until an April 10 deadline. That leaves one day to respond to the questions. The evaluation phase is next, with selection to be made at the end of April. Then there are 30 days for objections or appeals. The period for considering appeals extends to July 9—so there could be an interruption in service. There will be a two-year contract for delivery with the opportunity to renew years three, four, and five. The contract has to go through the State's review process.

The database RFP was ready on January 26, then there were 60 days of review from the State. So the RFP should be released on April 5. The period for questions will extend to April 26. There will be just a few days for evaluating, then the possible appeal process. Again, the process could stretch past the beginning of July, with a possible interruption of service. In order to avoid a \$13,000 STACAP charge, MIN should be the Fiscal Agent. Jenna at MSL will take on more fiscal tasks for MIN since it would not be possible for James to take on that additional work.

There will probably need to be MaineCat policy changes related to upcoming changes to van delivery procedures. Right now, supposedly, costs for material lost in transit in delivery are reimbursable by MSL. That practice—which has never been widely known or often used—is unsustainable. ALA's guidelines for interlibrary loan state that the cost for lost material is the borrowing library's responsibility. Minerva has its own policy on the responsibility for lost material. Will Minerva need to change its policy regarding "last touch"? The MaineCat delivery policy will be changing, so what about Minerva or other exceptions?

A summer or late spring retreat will not happen this year. It was agreed that there is no need to take on the extra load of a retreat for strategic planning at this time of an extraordinarily heavy workload for MIN. The regular August meeting will remain on the calendar.

The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m. for attendees to drive home or (for Steve) to hope for a car to be repaired.

The next MIN board meeting on June 3 at 1:30 p.m. will be done *by Zoom, not in-person* as had been planned earlier.