

WPLC Board Meeting
Minutes
January 27, 2010

Present: Lin Swartz-Truesdell (KCLS), Tom Hennen (WCFLS), David Weinhold (ESLS), Kristen Anderson (WRLS), Noreen Fish (WRLS), Inese Christman (WVLS), Steve Hesel (MCFLS), Krista Ross (SWLS), Maureen Welch (IFLS), Joy Schwarz (Winnefox), Phyllis Davis (SCLS), Ruth Ann Montgomery (ALS), Mark Merrifield (NLS), Steve Platteter (MWFLS), Mike Sheehan (NWLS), Kathy Schneider, (WILS), Linda Miller, Project Manager.

1. Call to Order

2. Partner Reports

WRLS used the new gadget package for training staff and expressed appreciation for the great supporting materials that were included in the package.

3. Budget

SCLS will invoice partners for WPLC membership dues.

4. Current Project Reports

OverDrive

Checkouts increased 36% in 2009 over 2008. WMA titles had the highest checkouts with 178,710 for the year, with MP3 titles next at 12,982 for the year.

OverDrive has stated that non-public libraries, which had expressed interest in joining the WPLC OverDrive service, are restricted from doing so due to the licensing restrictions that publishers have with OverDrive.

OverDrive is offering training for library staff on patron assistance. Dates and times will be sent to the WPLC list.

The WPLC OverDrive website was revised by OverDrive to be more user friendly to screen readers used by the visually impaired.

Linda Miller met with OverDrive representatives at ALA Midwinter.

The new service that OverDrive and B&T plan to introduce later in 2010 is designed for smaller libraries that do not have an existing OverDrive collection. It will run on a separate platform and cannot be integrated with a collection running on the current OverDrive platform.

Kathy Schneider, Stef Morrill, Phyllis Davis, Kristen Anderson, and Linda Miller discussed OverDrive's Advantage program with company representatives in a conference call. The company continues to be very interested in offering the program to individual public libraries in Wisconsin. Phyllis shared that the SCLS council wants all titles to be available to all libraries, not restricted to the library that purchased the title. SCLS also does not want to allow libraries to take advantage of the investment that WPLC has made by using the WPLC service to offer a restricted collection. Additional concerns expressed were bad public

relations that could result from the restricted collections and the departure from the libraries' commitment to resource sharing.

Board members want to encourage libraries to submit titles to be purchased to the WPLC Selection Committee and to encourage libraries to contribute funds to the WPLC collection development fund. Libraries are concerned with the number of holds on some of the more popular titles. Phyllis Davis suggested an agreement with libraries to add copies if the library has holds and send the library a bill. Quantities cannot be shifted from one title to another. The Selection Committee will review the Maximum Access titles again to see if the offerings have improved. Kathy Schneider stated that the amount available for developing a statewide collection is inadequate.

Dave Weinhold asked if urban patrons have an advantage because of higher broadband availability. Inese Christman responded that she does not hear any complaints about broadband but does hear complaints about the wait for popular titles. Mike Sheehan stated that NWLS has a mix of patrons, those who use the service and those who don't. Mark Merrifield agreed. Krista Ross reported that SWLS saw a 60% increase in OverDrive checkouts.

Steve Hesper recommended bringing the funding issue to SRLAAW for discussion. Milwaukee Public Library is seeing such growth in the use of OverDrive that the library is decreasing its own audio collection.

Phyllis reminded all that WPLC was conceived as an incubator of services, not a long term service provider. The Board should discuss how to shift responsibilities for long term services away from WPLC. The issue of funding the OverDrive service needs to be discussed at the SRLAAW meeting to give resource libraries an opportunity to be involved.

Linda Miller will inform OverDrive that the board is working on a plan to seek contributions from libraries to develop the collection as an alternative to the Advantage program. Libraries still have the alternative of creating their own separate account with OverDrive outside of WPLC.

NetLibrary

The cost for a NetLibrary collection would be \$10,000 although Kathy thinks that the committee will likely spend \$20,000. Four copies would be required because the collection would serve the consortium, and all titles would be downloadable. All WPLC members would have access to the collection. If individual libraries create a collection, the collection can only be viewed by that library's patrons. The Adobe Content Server is required to download the titles. Cost is \$350 each library (as profiled by NetLibrary), which is increasing to \$500 in March. Kathy will ask NetLibrary for a list of profiles and if NetLibrary can aggregate IP addresses for each library system.

The committee is reviewing the current NetLibrary collection for possible weeding. Few of the current titles are downloadable. The list will be shared via the WPLC list for libraries to review.

Opinions were mixed on pursuing multiple e-content vendors and products. Board members shared concerns about diverting funds for OverDrive, the more popular service, to other products and concerns about confusion that would be created by having multiple portals. Current low use of the NetLibrary collection was also expressed as a concern, although, it was mentioned that NetLibrary does cover subjects and include titles that OverDrive does not. David Weinhold moved and Mark Merrifield

seconded that the WPLC Selection Committee should continue to investigate all sources of downloadable content and submit recommendations to the WPLC board for a vote. Motion carried.

If any library is interested in conducting a trial of Safari, Kathy Schneider recommended that WPLC facilitate the trial.

5. New Projects/Proposals

No new projects were presented.

6. Future Directions Discussion

David Weinhold moved that Stef Morrill be elected chair of the WPLC Board. The motion was seconded and carried.

David Weinhold discussed the draft position description for project manager and moved that the position description be adopted. Kristen Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried. David will distribute the position description to WPLC partners, other agencies and consultants and request proposals.

7. Next Meeting

Board members support the continued use of GoToMeeting.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 7, at 10:00 AM at SCLS.

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