Wisconsin Public Library Consortium
Technology Collaboration Steering Committee Agenda
August 2, 2023, 12:00 pm
via zoom*

ATTENDEES: Kristen Anderson (WRLS), Melissa Aro (DPI), Wyatt Ditzler (PLLS), Karol Kennedy (BLS), Sherry Machones (NWLS), Bruce Smith (DPI), Vicki Teal Lovely (SCLS), John Thompson (IFLS)

PROJECT MANAGERS: Jennifer Chamberlain (WiLS), Melody Clark (WiLS)

1. **Call to order**
   Chair J. Thompson called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM

2. **Review Agenda – changes or additions**
   V. Teal Lovely requested to add an addition to the agenda regarding the Backup Committees and the upcoming Systems technology meeting. This was added as 7b.

   W. Ditzler moved to approve the agenda as amended. K. Kennedy seconded. Motion passed.

3. **Approval of minutes –** May 9, 2023
   K. Anderson moved approval of the minutes; W. Ditzler seconded. Motion passed.

4. **Reports: Committee/Workgroup Updates**
   a. WPLC Technology Operations Committee Meeting Notes **–** July 11, 2023
   J. Chamberlain noted that while there have not been any submissions from system IT folks via the information-sharing form, the committee had a robust information-sharing time during the meeting. There seems to be growing interest in sharing questions, problems, and potential solutions during the information-sharing time. Project Managers are considering moving this section to the top of the agenda to encourage active participation in other discussions.

   K. Anderson noted that the notes were very helpful and prompted WRLS to add a representative to that committee. It was also noted that the information-sharing and conversations seemed to get at the original purpose of the committee.

5. **Update on data dashboard discussions**
   The group discussed the conversations with DPI regarding the data summit and dashboard. There was confusion about who was the decision-making body for projects and who should be involved. A roadmap for WPLC technology projects developed from these conversations.

6. **Action: Review project roadmap and approve next steps for project**
   a. *Document: Road Map to a Statewide Library Data Dashboard Solution* (draft)
   J. Thompson walked the group through a draft dashboard implementation road map. Using information from DPI regarding their role and interest in the project, J. Thompson crafted a road map to sketch out how a dashboard pilot, testing, and evaluation could look. It was noted that this isn't a creation of a new dashboard but more of a hands-on review of the landscape.

Questions/Comments:
- M. Aro noted that DPI thinks this is a good plan for moving forward.
- W. Ditzler noted the plan is feasible if this is a research and planning project, not a dashboard creation project.
- B. Smith shared that from the LSTA perspective, the timeline is set to get to some decision-making before the next LSTA cycle. DPI has set aside some funds for this first phase of decision-making.
- K. Anderson thanked J. Thompson for drafting and noted it is very comprehensive.
- K. Kennedy noted that keeping all various stakeholders informed and updated will be crucial.

V. Teal Lovely made a motion to approve the roadmap. K. Anderson seconded. Motion approved.

7. **New Discussion Items**
   a. **Upcoming WPLC visioning session in October and technology collaborative structure breakout session opportunity**
   WPLC project managers are working with the WPLC chair to design a fall visioning session for WPLC board, committee representatives, and other key stakeholders. Currently there are plans for an afternoon breakout session on topics including the design and functionality of the technology collaborative committee structure and project pipeline. J. Chamberlain solicited feedback from the committee to help guide talking points/questions for this facilitated conversation.

   There were questions about the governance structure and technology projects and funding sources. J. Thompson noted that there are two main sources of funding for systems. There is the money we get from systems, and money that comes through the state. This could be an LSTA grant or an appropriation from the state which then puts it into the biennial budget. He noted the systems did get some success getting Recollection Wisconsin in the budget, but it did take two budget cycles to get it in there, and it isn't the most reliable funding structure. That also does then involve LD&L, WLA, and the State.

   B. Smith noted that the question about the funding stream has been a source of confusion. DPI looks at WPLC as a well-organized collaborative governance structure that is state-wide. For a brainstorming/think tank conversation that involves libraries, DPI looks to SRLAAW.

   b. **Statewide technology conversations and meetings**
   V. Teal Lovely shared a document (appendix B) and noted that there will be an upcoming technology system staff meeting on August 16th. They will focus on statewide technology collaboration.

   She shared that originally it was thought that the Technology Operations Committee would be an extension of the Tech Talk group. It was also noted that collaborations on software without standardization of structure and hardware is almost impossible to do statewide collaborations and purchases.

V. Teal Lovely shared that the document gets back to focusing on the roots/what the state wants to accomplish, concentrating on the PLSR outcomes.

It was noted that equity is an issue in collaboration across the state. Many systems do not have the staff to participate in committees and projects while other systems have multiple staff members able to distribute and delegate work.

It was also shared that this has to do with the level of staff involvement due to the level of funding each system has.

K. Anderson noted that communication about what is going on in each system is important, and information sharing is valuable.

It was noted that the landscape has changed from when the tech collaborations started. Folks have left systems, systems have merged, etc.

S. Machones noted that libraries with technology staff should be tapped into these conversations just like with SRLAAW.

8. **Committee information sharing and questions**
   W. Ditzler shared that they have successfully, after a lengthy process, replaced a landline telephone with a cell phone in their elevator! He's happy to share more information for anyone interested.

9. **Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:** November 7, 2023, at 2:00 pm (joint with the Operations Committee)

The meeting ended at 1:21 pm