

Wisconsin Public Library Consortium
Digital Library Steering Committee Meeting Notes

September 14, 2023, 1:00 PM

Teleconference meeting held via Zoom

ATTENDEES: ALS/PLS: Michael DeVries (Beloit), BLS: Shawn Carlson (Waukesha), BLS: Abby Armour (Mukwonago) IFLS: Martha Spangler (Altoona), KLS: Shannon Urban (Kenosha), LLS/PLS: Sara Swanson, (Union Grove), MCLS: Lisa Pike (Manitowoc), MCFLS: Elizabeth Hjelle (Shorewood), MCFLS: Beth Henika proxy for Karli Pederson (Milwaukee), MLS: Alex Harvancik (Horicon), NFLS: Clare Kindt (Brown County), NWLS: Sue Heskin (Superior), OWLS: Holly Selwitschka (Kimberly), SCLS: Elizabeth Clauss (Rosemary Garfoot), SCLS: Eric Norton (McMillan), SCLS: Molly Warren (Madison) SWLS: Karina Zidon (Platteville), WRLS: Kayla Mathson (Independence), WLS: Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm (Neenah), WVLS: Ada Demlow (Antigo), WPLC Board Representative: Rachel Metzler, WVLS

ABSENT: WLS: Christina Lyon (Caestecker)

Project Managers: Melody Clark (WiLS), Sara Gold (WiLS)

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM

2. Review Agenda – changes or additions

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

3. Approval of minutes – [May 18, 2023](#)

Motion: Approval of Minutes

Made by: M. Warren

Second: M. DeVries

Discussion: None

Results: Motion Passes unanimously

4. Reports: Committees, Workgroups and Project Manager Updates

a. WPLC Board Report

R. Metzler reported that the Board met twice since the Digital Library Steering Committee last met. At their June 12th meeting, the board approved the formula for magazines. It is based on magazine usage and population. The budget was also approved. The Advocacy workgroup is working on an RFP for consultant services to establish an endowment for WDL. A visioning session is set for October 16th. The Board received an update from DPI regarding moving the governance of statewide delivery to the WPLC. More information will be coming to the WPLC on that at the upcoming visioning sessions. A nominations committee was formed to select the 2024 Board slate. The Marketing Committee requested funds that were approved. They will be using this for Facebook and WPR ads. At the August meeting, the vision session was further discussed, and the Board decided to invite system directors and all Steering Chairs. There was a question about delivery, and it was noted that at this time, DPI hasn't provided a proposal to WPLC, but it would just be to move the governance under the WPLC, not necessarily any changes to the service providers.

b. Selection Committee

S. Gold reported the Selection Committee met on Sept 7th and selectors are encouraged to use the Beta version of Marketplace and to provide feedback to OverDrive on new features. Anyone is welcome to use it at <https://marketplace.beta.overdrive.com/>. Log in with your usual Marketplace username and password. Although the CDC will not be meeting in 2024, the Selection Committee will be reviewing the WPLC Collection Development Policy annually. Any suggestions will go to the Steering Committee for review and approval. There will be a Best Practices for Managing Advantage Collections webinar on Thursday, Oct 19th, and all selectors involved with Advantage accounts are encouraged to attend. Steering Committee members are welcome as well. The webinar will be recorded. The Selectors brought an issue to light that several systems are experiencing where patrons are collecting library cards to use Libby, Kanopy, and Hoopla over the per-patron limit. This will be discussed later in the meeting. The next meeting is Thursday, November 16th, at 1:00 pm. Please encourage selectors in your systems to attend.

5. Discussion and Action Items

a. Discussion and Action: DL Steering Committee Chair Nominations Committee

A committee needs to be formed to nominate a 2024 Steering Chair and Vice Chair. The project managers asked for volunteers to form the Nominations Committee.

Volunteers: M. Warren, H. Selwitschka, and M. DeVries

The group will meet virtually in the next month. It was noted that anyone interested in serving as chair or vice chair should let project managers know.

b. Discussion and Potential Action: NYT Digital Trial

The NYT has an offer for WI public libraries to provide News, Cooking, Games, the Wirecutter, and the Athletic for an annual price of approximately \$117,000. An [overview](#) of the various NYT collections available in this offer was presented to the Board at their last meeting.

The trial will allow for 200 users to access it. This should be enough for board and library folks to test. A limited number of seats can access the resources, but those libraries that use it have noted that they have never run out of seats.

Regarding pricing, there hasn't been a decision on how that will be shared yet. The price offered is regardless of who participates. The trial will be shared with the group as soon as it is available.

The group had the following questions:

- When could this potentially start?
 - We are looking at a January 1st start date.
- Where will the funding come from?
 - It would be from the systems, not the buying pool.
- How does this affect renewals that are already in the works for 2024?
 - Those libraries/systems would be credited if it goes through.
- Can NYT be accessed through Badgerlink?

- Some articles can be accessed, but not the NYT in its entirety. This offer was presented to Badgerlink, but they won't add it as it is only for public libraries and not all the groups they serve.
- For the systems that already subscribe, do your patrons find it easy to use?
 - M. Devries noted that they never have questions or complaints about it. They also don't have high usage.
 - You do have to continue to go in and get a new code every 24 hours.
 - M. Warren noted that it is a little clunky. Patrons and staff have gotten used to it very quickly.
- Is it easy to print articles, recipes, etc?
 - S. Heskin noted that at NWLS, patrons like it, and some have canceled their own subscriptions. They have also not had any complaints about printing.

A walkthrough will be coordinated and shared during the trial.

c. Discussion: Issuing Library Cards to Patrons Outside of Home System

This topic came up at the Sept 7th WPLC Selection Meeting. Selectors from Winnefox, MCLS, OWLS, and WVLS report that there has been a significant increase in patrons applying for library cards outside of their systems to utilize Libby, Hoopla, and other electronic resources.

The group was asked if other systems are experiencing this issue and if any system has implemented a written policy to address this.

H. Selwitschka noted that they see this as a problem within OWLS with Hoopla, as not all libraries within their system can afford Hoopla.

C. Kindt noted that Brown County has had a few requests for people who say they just moved here but still want to use their other system's cards because they will lose their holds place. They have noted a \$2-3k jump in monthly invoices from Hoopla. It was noted that those cards could be merged.

A. Armour shared that it can be an issue in Overdrive because of the Advantage collections. Some systems spend a lot of money on Advantage titles. K. Zidon also noted it could be an issue with OverDrive/Libby with patrons that have cards from multiple systems.

M. Warren noted that she agrees that it is an issue in OverDrive. More holds affect wait times, which makes collection development much more difficult for the statewide system and Advantage selectors.

It was shared that La Crosse restricts their Hoopla access to municipality, not card.

E. Norton shared that SCLS restricts several of their databases based on municipality.

M. Spangler shared that people can only have one library card in IFLS that works at all IFLS libraries, and if they move, the new card number is associated with their old patron record so they don't lose their place in current holds queues. But if they have a card from outside of IFLS, their policy is that they can't stop them from getting one in IFLS as well (might work in one and live in another system, for example).

H. Selwitschka noted that encouraging Advantage selection among the systems can help with this issue.

N. Hardina-Wilhelm is currently updating patron policies and their card access policy. They are looking at not allowing access to online resources for those outside of their municipality.

A. Armour's library is a border municipality, and their board struggles with drawing hard borders around systems as they have overlapping municipalities. In all other aspects, those folks are a part of their library.

K. Matheson will share their patron accounts policy.

It was noted that sharing policies would be helpful and that project managers could help by advertising Libby as much as possible and providing education and promotion to libraries and systems about best practices for using Advantage.

6. Committee Information Sharing and Questions

N. Hardina-Wilhelm asked if patrons are having issues with folks downloading titles to Androids. They have seen several in the past week. No one noted any similar issues.

More information about the vision session was provided. The Board is having the visioning session on October 16th to do goal-setting for the WPLC. DL Steering members were encouraged to contact their board reps for more information or to share their thoughts on the WPLC and WDL. The committee was also encouraged to fill out the brief questionnaire sent to them to help the board plan.

7. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: November 9, 2023, at 1:00 PM

Meeting ended at 1:55 pm.