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# Maine Library Commission Minutes, June 19, 2017

Maine Library Commission

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## Maine State Library Commission

**\*\* June 19, 2017 MEETING MINUTES \*\***

Meeting called to order at 1:00PM.

### **Attendance**

Commission Members Present: Joyce Rumery (chair,) Heidi Grimm, Helen Fogler, Richard Thompson, Charles Campo, Todd Paige, Jeff Cabral, Barbara McDade, Art Turley, and Sarah Campbell (by phone)

Also Present: James Ritter (State Librarian, MSL), Alison Maxell (MSL), Janet McKenney (MSL) and Adam Fisher (MSL), James Jackson Sanborn (by video conference)

### **Welcome**

The chair opened the meeting at 1:00PM and called for a round of introductions from attendees.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from March 13, 2017 Maine Library Commission were approved.

### **Legislative Update**

James Ritter updated the commission on legislation designed to provide sustainable funding for the Maine School and Library Network. Although LD 256 received bipartisan support in both chambers of the legislature, there is a chance that the governor may veto the measure. We will know later this week if that is the case. Based on earlier votes, the measure may have enough support from legislators to provide for enough votes to overturn a veto if that happens.

There is great uncertainty about the state budget and whether or not there will be agreement between the parties in time to prevent a shutdown in state government.

Stability of federal funding streams remains a concern. A continuing resolution will likely be forthcoming that could provide base funding through the end of the calendar year. There is no telling what will come after that.

### **Maine InfoNet**

James Jackson Sanborn reported that the contract between InfoNet and Innovative interfaces, Inc., has been signed. The agreement covers the span of five years and will provide new services and significant savings. The cost for the coming year will be 8 percent than last year and 12 percent less than what we would have had if the contract not been renewed.

The package includes a number of new product functions including: linked data systems to allow library cataloged records to be crawled and indexed by search engines and a replacement to Encore/OPAC that will allow advanced searching capabilities.

The agreement will also allow us to bring on Maine Maritime Academy as a Minerva or MILS library.

### **LSTA Plan**

Janet McKenney distributed copies of the new five year LSTA plan. The big difference in the new five year plan is the addition of new initiatives and goals that are aligned with IMLS guideline areas.

Basic components of the plan include Talking Books, Books by Mail, support of InfoNet, ARRCs and Consulting Services.

We have 12.75 FTE positions tied to the federal funding that pays for approximately 66% of what is covered in the plan. Reduction in federal funds would have a direct effect on our ability to deliver the services in the plan.

Members of the commission were encouraged to provide their feedback to Janet this week before the plan is sent to the Attorney General's Office.

The commission voted to approve the plan with the addition of amended language.

### **Strategic Initiative Team Updates**

We set out last fall to work on four general areas of priority for the agency. The process was designed to engage staff and partners in creative problem solving methodologies. The teams have exhibited tremendous leadership throughout the process thus far.

ARRC – the team put out a survey to library directors seeking feedback. They will have the summer to receive and review the responses.

Marvel – the team is working in three different subgroups on three areas:

1. User interface – updating the site to make content more accessible.
2. Collections development- assessing content needs and wants and working through the contract process to acquire new subscription services.
3. Marketing and advocacy – working on improving awareness of this service.

Storytelling – the team is developing a data toolkit with resources aimed at libraries of different sizes to identify indicators and develop narratives highlighting how libraries serve Maine people.

Digitization – the team ebbs and flows between Maine State Library work and statewide efforts to provide services aimed at helping other Maine institutions to implement best practices in their work.

### **Other Business**

- Commission members discussed status of board vacancies and concerns about the fact that candidates to fill open positions have not made it through the approval process.
- James Ritter distributed a draft of the Statewide District Board Report. The chair suggested the report be included on the agenda for the September 2017 meeting.

- Jeff Cabral suggested the public library standards be included as a topic of discussion for a future meeting.
- Richard Thompson suggested a library tour for a future meeting to highlight new services and talk about facilities challenges.

Meeting adjourned at 2:42 PM.

DRAFT