

Sailor Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2013

Attendees – Michael Gannon (chair), Stuart Ragland, Michael Walsh, Irene Padilla, Dennis Nangle, Margaret Burri, Ann Smith, Lee O'Brien (remote), John Venditta (remote), Joe Thompson

Michael Gannon called the meeting to order at 10:20 am.

Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the Feb. 18, 2013, meeting were approved with no changes. Moved by Joe Thompson, seconded by Dennis Nangle.

Sailor FY13 Second Quarter Report (Stuart Ragland) - New EBSCO data bases were added by Mid-January and accessibility was verified. Marina went live with Relais and training and problem solving sessions were conducted with personnel throughout the state. Google Hangouts and UStream have been tested by various groups and meetings (including this meeting) in order to find stable video conferencing replacement technology. Level3 was selected as contractor for ISP services after competitive bid.

Sailor Network Managers Group (Stuart Ragland) – Stuart reported that the April 2nd SNMG meeting in Charles County discussed the ramifications of BTOP fiber projects throughout the state. In general participating libraries know that fiber has been pulled into their buildings but are not yet aware of what services are being made available from Network Maryland or the One Maryland networks.

SNMG is interested in the various collaborative meeting technologies. Members note the importance of adequate bandwidth. John Venditta commented that Google Hangouts was working well today between desktops.

The Group toured the new West Branch Library.

Discussion of Sailor's approach to the new BTOP networks ensued. Stuart reiterated that some counties are unsure of their options once new networks are in place. Lee stated that was the case in Cecil County. Since each county's needs are unique, Mike Walsh will begin making visits to each county to discuss and assess changing situations and make plans for future contracts which may be affected. Irene suggested that county libraries should be reassured that Mike Walsh will be making visits and has things well in hand in terms of Sailor solutions.

Sailor Databases Statistics (Stuart Ragland) – Stuart reported that Sirsi/Dynix, EBSCO and SMRLA have worked out the database searching fix for the problem that was causing search statistical errors. Future statistics should reflect the fix and fall back into line with previous numbers.

Sailor Network Report (Mike Walsh)—Mike reported that Sailor will continue to contract with Level3 for a second 2 GB pipeline. He discussed network evaluation, meetings with co-partners and preparations for change in the network architecture. Mike made this presentation using Google presentation and Google drive and commented that he likes these tools.

Video Conferencing Equipment Update (Mike Walsh, et al) -throughout the meeting Google Groups/Hangout was tested as a possible remote meeting technology solution replacing the end of life system used previously at selected locations around the state. Lee O'Brien participated remotely and noted that the video connection was fine, but the audio with Poe room (via speaker phone after direct audio failed) was inadequate. John Venditta participated from the Easter Shore and said that it was OK for him. Mike was asked to develop a specification sheet of what equipment is required.

Mike noted that there are no plans to replace the existing systems. Mike will coordinate the retirement of the equipment and will offer any useful tech pieces to others. The experiment with new replacement technologies will continue during the next meeting.

Relais/MARINA Update (Anne Smith)—Anne reported for Wendy that Relais major process issues have been solved and that individual county issues are being worked on. During March and April one-on-one sessions are being conducted by Mark at Relais with individual counties and will be followed by another group webinar. The outstanding issues include: some requests in Polaris are stalling at Harford and Baltimore Counties; some libraries are having trouble with book group requests. Library users are stepping up to help each other.

Community College libraries are on board and correctional libraries, which have been on hold, will be coming on board this week.

Budget (Ann Smith) - Anne presented the budget report which included preliminary figures for the 2014 fiscal year and comparative information to the previous year. Despite a 1% increase in formula funding due to population increase, the decrease in city support necessitates a materials budget decrease of 6%.

The phase 2 SLRC/Central Renovation will be starting with 2014 funding. Staff will be spending time with floor plans, programmatic review and planning.

Other Business – Irene suggested that database priorities and funding be considered at a future meeting.

The next meeting will be held June 13.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee O'Brien