

## **Minutes of the June 15, 2012 Pioneer Consortium Executive Committee Meeting**

At 10:02 a.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2012, President Pat Leach called to order the scheduled meeting of the Pioneer Consortium Executive Committee by telephone conference. The meeting was conducted in compliance with the Nebraska Public/Open Meeting Law, which is posted at [http://www.ago.ne.gov/public\\_records/open\\_meetings\\_act](http://www.ago.ne.gov/public_records/open_meetings_act). Member libraries received notices and copies of the Agenda on June 14, 2012, to post locally. The agenda notice also was posted on the Pioneer Blog.

### **Attendance**

Executive Committee members present were President Pat Leach, Lincoln City Libraries; Vice President Robin Clark, Sump Memorial Library (Papillion); Secretary Maria Cadwallader, Valparaiso Public Library; Treasurer Pam Soreide, Holdrege Area Public Library; and Immediate Past President Steve Fosselman, Edith Abbott Memorial Library (Grand Island).

Also in attendance were Laureen Riedesel, Beatrice Public Library; Greg Mickells, Lincoln City Libraries; Dave Mixdorf, South Sioux City Public Library; Vicki Perrie, Superior Public Library; Andrew (Sherm) Sherman, Sump Memorial Library (Papillion); and Richard Miller, Nebraska Library Commission.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the May 3, 2012 meeting circulated before the meeting by email. Pam Soreide moved and Robin Clark seconded the motion to approve the minutes, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report circulated before the meeting by email. The May 1, 2012 balance was \$23,155.14. Income totaled \$54,496.44 – \$54,455.25 in member payments and \$41.19 in interest. Expenditures totaled \$17,873.65 – \$1,562.50 in migration fees and \$9,311.15 in maintenance fees to Liblime/PTFS, and \$7,000 to RR Bowker LLC for Library Thing. The May 31, 2012 balance was \$59,777.93.

In answer to a question from Pat Leach, Richard Miller reported that the NLC grant for \$34,020 to support the development previously approved by the Consortium will arrive in two parts, one before June 1 and one in July.

### **Membership Committee Report**

Steve Fosselman stated that he is working with two potential members who have not yet applied for membership.

### **Technical Committee Report**

#### Planning to Replace Technical Committee Chair

Greg Mickells is leaving, probably in mid August, to become Director of Madison (Wisconsin) Public Libraries this September. Those present congratulated Greg on his good news and also expressed regret at losing his expertise.

The technical committee will meet soon to discuss issues related to choosing Greg's replacement as Technical Committee Chair and will then make recommendations to President Pat Leach about the appointment. Greg mentioned that, in addition to continuing the relationships he has established with other Liblime Koha library systems, the new Chair will need to create a strong relationship with Liblime President Patrick Jones. Greg has been able to call Patrick quickly (on

his cell phone) and have frank discussions about planning for upgrades in terms of both timing and cost.

### Extraction and Migration

Andrew Sherman has worked with David City and Blue Hill. Both are having problems extracting information from Follett. Blue Hill has extracted its records but now is having problems adding records, and this problem may relate to conflicts between 34- and 68-bit system setups.

Maria Cadwallader asked whether members have kept records of problems they encountered while migrating, as this information could be helpful to libraries as they prepare to move to Koha. Andrew Sherman said he has kept notes about problems he is helping with. Pam Soreide said that problems are highly individual to specific libraries, even when they are migrating from the same ILS, but there are specific things that all libraries moving from, for example, Follett, have to be able to do. Pat Leach suggested asking member libraries to respond with information about their experiences. Richard Miller said that new libraries would find it very helpful and reassuring to have a list of contacts from member libraries who could help with migration from specific other systems. Maria said she would email member libraries with questions about their migrating experience and about contacts who might help new members.

### Development

#### *GetIt Training*

Greg reported that members should respond right away to Tammy Teasley's email today about GetIt training being offered free by Liblime Koha this June. Greg said that even small libraries who do not use GetIt would find the training useful because GetIt may offer the price advantage of scale for Pioneer members in the future.

#### *4.12*

Greg said that the two developments now ready, relating to holds and to limiting searches to the borrower's library, will be loaded in the process of the upgrade to 4.12, which will happen soon. He said that South Central reported this upgrade to be the least painful of any ILS upgrades they have ever experienced on any system, so he hopes it will be smooth for Pioneer, too.

#### *Archiving parameters; July 4 system-wide archiving*

Greg said that Liblime Koha and the Technical Committee have been communicating about the need to archive some data and eliminate other data so that the system is not overwhelmed.

The committee agreed that data from the action logs can be kept live for 3 months and then dumped; that imported batches for cataloging can be kept live for one week and then dumped; that messages can be kept live for one month and then archived by location; that deleted borrowers and borrowers tables will be kept intact; that statistics will be kept by each location and that the location will determine their archive's parameters. Greg said the first archiving and deleting will be on July 4; staff and patrons won't be able to search the system that day.

### Grant Availability

Richard Miller reported that the NLC will not know about federal funding until after the November elections. He said that he has promised one library that it can apply for a grant to join Pioneer and will make that happen, but no other information is available.

### Training

Maria Cadwallader said that only Western Nebraska Community College has indicated an interested in Koha training; other members may not be wanting training now because they attended previous sessions. Pat Leach suggested that this time of year might not be good for training. Maria agreed to send another training query to members about content and timing.

Maria said the Koha training sessions in 2011 had such faint audio on the DVD sent to her as to be useless; and the training session on Reports seemed not to have been recorded. Andrew Sherman said the Reports session did not record and mentioned that posting the videos on the website would eliminate the need to send DVDs. David Mixdorf said his DVD did not have audio problems.

### **Meeting with System Administrators**

Pat Leach reported that she met with the System Administrators on June 6, to find out if there was any resistance to Pioneer and what sort of information we could provide to help their libraries understand what Pioneer offers.

Pat said the administrators recommended Pioneer develop a brochure of system features similar to brochures from for-profit systems so that libraries could see what the Koha ILS can do. Pat said that what goes into the brochure also should be on the website.

Richard Miller said that the materials also should stress what differentiates Pioneer from the for-profit systems – that is, the benefits that accrue because of our differences – because there is no way we can compete in terms of money for advertising and sales and so on. Steve Fosselman mentioned that we are not sales people, we are librarians – and that is a major strength. Pam Soreide mentioned that the brochure should include a checklist about how to prepare to migrate (what you need to know about your own system). Maria Cadwallader mentioned and Pat Leach agreed that testimony from member libraries also would be appropriate.

Pat and Steve said that the Membership Committee therefore should have a Public Relations subcommittee to develop a brochure and other materials. Maria Cadwallader and Robin Clark said they were willing to serve on the committee. Laureen Riedesel said she was not interested in the public relations materials but thought the membership committee also should plan ways to recognize members – for example, for the date they joined Pioneer; for specific contributions to the organization; and so on – and that she had some ideas about this, such as the plaque their former ILS gave them.

### **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maria M. Cadwallader, Secretary