

## **Minutes of the Jan. 18, 2013 Pioneer Consortium Executive Committee Meeting**

At 2:03 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18, 2013, President Pat Leach called to order the scheduled meeting by telephone conference of the Pioneer Consortium Executive Committee. The meeting was conducted in compliance with the Nebraska Public/Open Meeting Law, posted at [http://www.ago.ne.gov/public\\_records/open\\_meetings\\_act](http://www.ago.ne.gov/public_records/open_meetings_act), to which our web page links. Member libraries received notices and copies of the Agenda on Jan. 17, 2013, to post locally. The agenda notice also was posted on the Pioneer website.

### **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 Technical Committee Chair Andrew (Sherm) Sherman, Sump Memorial Library; and Curtis Brundy, Western Nebraska Community College.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the Nov. 29, 2012 meeting circulated before the meeting by email. Pam moved and Steve seconded the motion to approve the minutes, and the motion unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report circulated before the meeting by email and was accepted. The Dec. 1, 2012 balance was \$64,790.87. Income totaled \$1,710.23 – \$1,704.59 in member payments and \$5.64 in interest. Expenditures totaled \$6,531.70 in migration fees to Liblime/PTFS. The Dec. 31, 2012 balance was \$59,969.40.

Maria asked if the Treasurer's Reports posted on the website would be sufficient if they included year-end reports for previous fiscal years and year-to-date reports for the current fiscal year, and said that she did not have the year-end reports for 2009-2010 or 2010-2011 but does for 2011-2012. Pat said she would arrange for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 year-end reports. In addition, Pat, Robin, and Maria will meet before the next meeting to determine (a) legal reporting requirements for open meetings and (b) what we will post on the website to meet those requirements and our members' needs.

### **Membership Committee Report**

Steve reported that Central City visited with him at his library and viewed Koha.

Steve said that Pam has been working with ESU media services, and Craig Peterson is very interested in their joining Pioneer. Several issues remain to work through, including paperwork requirements, looking at the ESU and school libraries' budgets, and deciding how to compute charges to the ESU libraries and/or the ESU.

Steve said he will visit with 16 area school libraries soon to explain Pioneer. Pat asked if any were interested in joining Pioneer or if the interest was only the ESU's. Pam said one of the 16 is interested and the others want to proceed more slowly.

Steve said his meeting with York College is coming up. That also requires more figuring about fees.

Steve said he followed up with the One Consortium. Dee Johnson (Columbus) said they have just received an update to their Dynex system. When their Consortium meets again in March, she will share information about Pioneer with them. They want to know why they should move from Dynex to Koha and their emphasis seems to be on feature differences, which Steve sees as problematic. We do not act as a vendor for Koha and so don't "sell" it with claims of its superiority to other systems but in terms of its benefits as an open systems project with increasingly statewide ties among Nebraska libraries.

Pat, Sherm, Maria, and Pam mentioned that PTFS answered the original Pioneer libraries' technical questions and had lengthy printed specs, but their printed specs are not always up-to-date, and their PR materials are too general to answer technical questions. Curtis mentioned that PTFS' Patrick Jones answered WNCC's questions about features and functions and said we should ask PTFS to talk with the One Consortium. Steve said he will try to get on the March meeting agenda of the One Consortium, with a conference call with Patrick Jones as part of that. He asked that the Technical and PR Committees press PTFS for technical materials that contrast Koha's features and functions with those of other major vendors.

### **Technical Committee Report**

#### Website

Sherm has changed the WordPress template and cleaned up the site. Now blog posts show in truncated format, which makes it easier to scan through them to find things. Those present thanked him for his efforts and said they liked the change.

#### Checklists for New Members

The checklist is on the website – the link to it is at the top of the Training page. Sherm said he and Robin put it together from the perspective of someone moving from Follett. He wants everyone but especially those from other systems to add to it, because they will have faced different problems. Robin mentioned that they framed it not just as a technical checklist but from the perspective of how joining Koha affects the whole library.

Robin said that early visits from Pioneer to interested libraries would be very helpful, not just to the libraries but to Pioneer, because we could spot problems the libraries would need to deal with before they join. Pam said that, because of the travel and time expense, the interested library should visit a Koha library, instead, for its first exposure to Koha. Others said that both sorts of visits would be useful. Steve said we should involve the NLC before deciding about who would make these sorts of visits; this has a lot to do with library development, and we undoubtedly will be working more with the library service areas as time goes on. Pat asked Robin to follow up with Richard Miller.

#### PTFS Payment

Pat said our billing/payment issues with PTFS relate to the fact that PTFS has been giving us quotes which group requests, but we don't pay until the entire group is done. The solution is to get the quotes separately for each topic, and she has spoken to Tammy about this.

### PTFS Development

Sherm said Tammy is working on the development list; he gave her more information to include in it. Pat said she thinks Tammy is working from the old list. Maria said she understands the list will include development completed, still underway, and proposed, with priorities indicated. Sherm said he doesn't have any of the old lists Greg worked up; Maria said she would email her copies to him today.

Pat talked with Patrick Jones about PTFS' workload; he said they may have a new Federal contract which may include development we want, which thus could cut our costs. Sherm said that, as soon as we have our list of priorities, we need to meet with the other Koha Consortia to figure out how we can share development costs.

Pat said she recently emailed Richard Miller about the possibility of more NLC grants for Pioneer development.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

#### Nominating Committee

Pat said that three officers – herself, Pam, and Maria – are not eligible to serve in their current roles again because the Bylaws limit terms to 2 years. She will activate a nominating committee soon.

#### Future Directions

Pat said we should consider how we think Pioneer should develop in the near and more distant future and gather information so we can have a planning discussion. We probably also should meet with Richard and Rod at the NLC about these ideas. Maria and Robin indicated their interest in participating in discussions with the NLC. Robin suggested establishing a Futures Committee for this purpose. Steve asked that, before the next meeting, Council Members also talk to each other about this.

### **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maria M. Cadwallader, Secretary