

## Minutes of the Executive Council of the Pioneer Consortium

July 12, 2013

President Pam Soreide called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. on Friday, July 12, 2013 in the Meeting Room at the Holdrege Area Public Library in Holdrege. The meeting was conducted in compliance with the Nebraska Public/Open Meetings Law, posted at <http://www.ago.ne.gov/publicrecords/openmeetingsact> linked to our web page and also inside the meeting room. Member libraries received notices and copies of the Agenda on July 10, 2013 to post locally. The agenda notice was also posted on the Pioneer website.

### Attendance

Voting members present were Executive Council President Pam Soreide (Holdrege Area Public Library), Vice President Robin Reed Brooks Clark (Sump Memorial Library, Papillion), Secretary Laureen Riedesel (Beatrice Public Library), and Immediate Past President Pat Leach (Lincoln City Libraries.) Also present from the Pioneer Consortium were Judy Grandstaff (Blue Hill Public Library), Sara Lee (Central City Public Library), Steve Fosselman (Edith Abbott Memorial Library, Grand Island), Merrilene Wood (Western Nebraska Community College Library, Scottsbluff), Cynthia (Holdrege Area Public Library), and Julee Hector (Lincoln City Libraries.) Also in attendance was Richard Miller, Nebraska Library Commission.

### Minutes

The minutes of the May 9, 2013 meeting were approved with 2 spelling corrections (web address and a personal name) (moved by Leach, seconded by Clark, 4-0.)

### Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was accepted as submitted. The beginning balance for May was \$52,317.44. Receipts totaled \$62,894.65 (orientation fees - \$400; member payments \$62,494.65.) Expenditures were \$27,289.69 (Consortium maintenance.) The June 30, 2013 balance was \$92,609.91.

### Committee Reports

#### Membership Committee

Steve Fosselman reported that the ESU in Holdrege would not be moving forward with Consortium membership. The ESU collection does not have MARC records and does not meet Technical requirements. Retrospective conversion would be necessary. A different model would need to be developed to make it possible for them to join the Consortium.

## Technical Committee

The Technical Committee recommendation that the Pioneer Consortium contribute \$10,375 to cosponsor development with SCLS for 3 database projects: RDA, batch deletion and bib. merge was approved. (moved by Clark, no second required, 4-0.)

## Old Business

There is \$3,000 earmarked for training in the budget. It was suggested that a PTFS person be brought to the OCT 9 training for a session on the acquisitions model GetIt. It was suggested that the Pioneer members be surveyed about their training needs. Julie Hector will handle this. All members will be strongly encouraged to attend. The need for consistency across the Consortium was emphasized as Libraries join and move through the various stages. Step-by-step instructions are needed for every phase of development. Basic components need to be taught to all with checklists developed to ensure that the training is complete. Examples included basics of migration, adding records and creating original records. "Fail-safes" need to be built into the process. The value of using other libraries as resources was emphasized. Visits and training at other KOHA libraries was one of the best ways for new libraries to understand the system. Sherm from Papillion was also mentioned as a valued advisor for new member libraries. The need to have a smooth handoff from the Membership Committee to the Technical Committee was noted, so that PTFS representatives are not the only ones talking to new members. The Technical Committee is in charge of training components. On October 9, Jeff will be responsible for Periodicals training, Gerianne for GetIt (with assistance from Tammy.) The October 9 training is to be linked to the NLA Conference (overlapping with Pre-Conferences) and include an Annual Meeting. Pam Soreide will send "save the date" information to the members. The idea of incentives to encourage attendance was suggested.

## New Business

Richard Miller discussed the idea of a Futures Committee and its possible role for the Consortium. It was noted that this is a critical period for the Pioneer group. The Library Commission hopes to be able to offer more Library Improvement grants. Pat Leach and Steve Fosselman met with Richard and Rod Wagner to discuss future scenarios including the need for dedicated staff, the structure of the organization, and the need for subsidies to libraries like Lincoln and Papillion that have provided so much required assistance to the Consortium. More funding will be needed in the future. Existing partnerships need to be maintained and new ones developed. Richard noted that Holly who worked with the BTOP grants would be continuing at the Commission as a full-time staff on the IT team. The possibility of the Commission collection migrating to Pioneer had also been raised. A Futures Committee could coordinate with the other committees

to make recommendations to the Executive Committee. It was decided that the Futures Committee would include the Past and Future Presidents and representatives from the other committees. The members would be Pat Leach, Robin Clark, Steve Fosselman and Julee Hector with Richard Miller as an ex-officio member. This group will deal with questions of our “collective capital” as well as tactical and strategic planning. The more operational questions will remain with the more pragmatic Technical Committee. (Operational questions, “Help” desk, Point of contact assistance.)

A map showing the locations of Pioneer member libraries was distributed by Richard Miller. It had been developed by John Felton from the Library Commission staff.

### Public Participation

Concern was expressed about communication from Jane with expectations that Pioneer libraries would be in the sandbox in preparation for the next version. Some libraries knew nothing about this. Confusion was expressed about the Help Desk at PTFS and who could contact them. The POINT OF CONTACT for the Pioneer Consortium is Lincoln City Libraries. They will make the contact with PTFS. This should be addressed at the Oct. 9 training.

Documentation was an issue. How much information is actually available in the FAQ section of the website?

The Cataloging Committee had concerns with deduping. Determining the contact person for each library’s records and determining who has the authority to merge or correct is something that needs to be established.

A future development for Pioneer will be Interlibrary Loan and other resource sharing between member libraries.

After a review of the specific people assigned to the Future Structure Committee, the role of the group was reviewed. The Pioneer Consortium has been successful, but it has been making decisions “by the seat of the pants.” Each new question could result in a new strategy to solve it. This has been effective, but it is a waste of energy. For each task, there are many ways to get it done. We now need to be looking for the best ways using a big picture rather than snapshot approach. New partnerships can be developed, and different futures considered.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 11:45 a.m.