

## Minutes of the Executive Council of the Pioneer Consortium

September 12, 2013

President Pam Soreide called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2013 in the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln. 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. Member libraries received notices and copies of the Agenda on \_\_\_\_\_ 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), Treasurer Vicki Perrie (Superior Public Library) and Immediate Past President Pat Leach (Lincoln City Libraries.) Also present were Julee Hector (Lincoln City Libraries), Tammy Teasley (Lincoln City Libraries), Andrew Sherman (Sump Memorial Library, Papillion), Steve Fosselman (Edith Abbott Memorial Library, Grand Island), Richard Miller (Nebraska Library Commission) and attending through a conference call connection Merrilene Wood (Western Nebraska Community College Library, Scottsbluff.) Pat Leach also introduced the Meredith McCown, the Heritage Room Curator.

### Minutes

The minutes of the July 12, 2013 meeting were approved (moved by Leach, seconded by Clark, 5-0.)

### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as submitted. The beginning balance for August 2013 was \$87,360.02 with net migration expenses of \$5,802.30 for an ending balance of \$81,557.72.

### Committee Reports

#### Membership Committee

Steve Fosselman and Andrew Sherman have been working with Bill Aeller, the Director of the most recent applicant for membership. The recommendation of the Committee was that the application and assurances of the Dundy County Library, Benkelman be accepted so they can become a Pioneer member. A motion was made by Vickie Perrie (Superior) that the recommendation of the Committee related to Dundy County Library, Benkelman be accepted; it was approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### Technical Committee

Julee Hector reported on behalf of the Committee. The Western Nebraska Community College inquiry about using LDAP for patron authentication was not practical because the entire consortium would also have to use LDAP according to information from PTFS.

No money will be required from the Pioneer Consortium related to RDA status because Salina has completed the project with PTFS.

The joint development with SCLS, Clio and Salina will result in billing for batch delete and bib. merge.

#### Old Business

The item on Planning and promotion for training at NLA on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> was combined with Old Business item d. Discussion of plans for training program October 9th.

#### New Business

Discussion – LCL decision to evaluate effectiveness of KOHA.

Problems with a recent change related to HOLDS was mentioned. While several libraries had problems, they seemed to be the most severe for LCL. Everyone is supposed to be testing using the sandbox, but communication is not good about this. For example, Vickie Perrie (Superior) had not been receiving any messages about this. Laureen Riedesel (Beatrice) reported that she received a message asking why they hadn't been using the sandbox; this was the first she knew about it. There needs to be a more structured approach to speak effectively to PTFS. The group was reminded that we are responsible for testing. Depending upon SCLS for testing does not always work because they operate like one big library with branches. They all have the same policies. SCLS was already a consortium before they joined KOHA. In order to go forward in Pioneer, we may need to change some policies. We also need to consider what we need to do in order to do more resource sharing among the members.

Pat Leach explained that LCL would begin an evaluation process of KOHA. Specific areas to be addressed are the functionality of the software and the amount of staff time required to make the system work. Some aspects of KOHA have not been supporting the level of work done by LCL. There are issues with the number of locations they have and the scale of their operation. There is concern about the price and affordability of other ILS alternatives since the financial resources of LCL have not really changed in the years since the KOHA decision was made. LCL wants to be aware of other alternatives and what might be possible. Concern was expressed from the group about the leadership role that LCL has played in the development of the Pioneer Consortium and how that would be handled in the future. There was also some question about the timing of this evaluation. While it may be done by November, it also may take longer to complete. LCL works with a biennial budget and needs to be preparing for the next two years. Some budget concerns relate to the cost of staff time. Customers and staff need to be satisfied with the system. The Council expressed great interest in the results of this evaluation as well as understanding about the amount of work that the LCL staff will be doing to undertake and complete this process

#### Contingency Planning

Pioneer needs to do Contingency Planning regardless of what LCL decides. A Committee was appointed with Steve Fosselman (Grand Island), Robin Reed Books Clark (Papillion) and Laureen Riedesel (Beatrice) as members. Richard Miller (Nebraska Library Commission) will also be part of the group. Concerns to be addressed include responsibilities of and for Pioneer member libraries, the role of the Nebraska Library Commission, potential members, work with new members and opportunities with cross-state consortia.

Steve Fosselman left the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Discussion of NLA presentation, acknowledgement of new members

The NLA Conference program format was changed to a panel discussion. It will be a continuation of "Pioneer's Progress: with an emphasis on accomplishments. Pam will be the Moderator. Steve and Maria will be recognized for their service as officers in the group. Gerianne will discuss the new acquisition module. Sherm will present information about relationships and joint development opportunities. Laureen will distribute framed membership certificates to new members. This will be a chance to talk about the benefits and responsibilities of a consortium as compared to a turnkey system. This is also a chance to have "Ask me about Pioneer" stickers or ribbons on member nametags.

Discussion of plans for training program October 9<sup>th</sup>.

A handout was distributed showing the schedule and topics. (Copy attached.) Publicity will include an email blast to libraries who should send representatives

Pam updated the group on her retirement plans. They have 4 qualified candidates. Her goal is "the end of the year up to some point." She also mentioned a CLIC membership meeting in Aurora on October 3 & 4 that she had discussed with Patrick. WALDO (the academics) wants to attend. There is discussion of merging a marketable product being developed with SCLS into one product. Pam will be attending, Sherm will be a virtual attendee and Merrillene also wanted to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 5: p.m.