Sailor Advisory Committee

Poe Room, EPFL, Central / SLRC
December 18, 2014
10:15 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

Present: Daria Parry (Chair); Wendy Allen; Mike Walsh; Margaret Burri; Stuart Ragland; Dennis Nangle; Jennifer Falkowski

Virtually: Vicki Cone; Elizabeth Hulett; Jennifer Ranck

Welcome (Daria Parry, Chair) – Meeting came to order at 10:15 a.m. Daria welcomed all.

Approval of Minutes – October 16, 2014 – Who moved approval and who seconded?

SLRC Commission Report – November 20, 2014 – Daria reported on the meeting, and noted that she gave a brief SAC report. Some highlights from the meeting include:

- SLRC's strategic plan was discussed in detail. Main area of focus of the strategic plan is visibility and AskUsNow. Paul Chasen is investigating other virtual reference services and is looking at marketing strategy. Since August, more than 6,000 questions have been answered by AskUsNow.
- Another area of the plan includes innovative services. SLRC held a statewide circulation manager's meeting which included discussions on Frederick County Public Library's dual use library / debit card program and bed bugs.
- SLRC has published several new guides including Ebola, Enterovirus D68, and homeschooling.
- SLRC is looking into new partnerships for digitization and enhancing partnerships with the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) and public schools.

Sailor Network Managers Group (Stuart Ragland) – SNMG met earlier in December and discussed virtual meetings and distance learning. SNMG wonders if public library staff are aware when equipment is available for

online meetings (cameras, headsets, etc.) within their systems. Stuart suggested library systems branch managers learn to hold meetings via Google Hangouts to introduce this method. Discussion followed about the pros and cons of using various devices (iPads, smart phones, laptops) to attend online meetings.

SLRC Quarterly Report: (Stuart Ragland)

Sailor Network Report (Mike Walsh) – As reported in October and June, the point-to-point wireless infrastructure network on the eastern shore and in Calvert County is being replaced. The upper eastern shore will be connecting to a Comcast site. The contract is being reviewed and is expected to be signed soon.

The wireless network in Calvert County will be transitioned to the county government. The first of the five sites will be moved by the end of January. The library in Calvert County will be served by Comcast which is installing the service.

Mike will present an updated network map at our next meeting.

Relais/MARINA (Wendy Allen)

- Relais issues have stabilized. It is now easier to find titles within a series, because Relais has included the appropriate field in the marc record. Wendy will present a comparison between FY 14 and FY 15 first quarter statistics at the next meeting.

Budget Report

- The SLRC budget is underspent at this point in the year due to outstanding invoices and delivery costs as well as several staff vacancies due to retirements. These positions are being filled. Should the budget have a variance of 10% or more, SLRC will go back to state in April to explain how those funds will be spent.
- Renovation of Pratt continues' first cost estimates are coming in and drawings are being refined. Temporary collection space has been selected on Annapolis Road.

Downloads: Sailor Databases (Stuart Ragland & Jennifer Falkowski) –

- Stuart reviewed the EBSCO cost per download, per database, charts he distributed prior to the December 18 meeting via email. Stuart thanked Jennifer F. for advising him that EBSCO can break out individual database prices from the package price. Having the individual prices was key to compiling the cost/download figures. Irene asked how the retail value was determined. It is based on a market basket of individual article prices charged by database vendors. EBSCO provides the Pulbic Library usage statistics to EPFL/SOC. They provide the K-12 usage statistics to Jay Bansbach, who sends a copy to Stuart.
- This information will be shared with MPERLS. Reports detail what the libraries are saving the public and will help libraries determine what specific resources need to be marketed.
- Daria remarked that SLRC could help with marketing as part of their "visibility" goal in their strategic plan. A unified web presence among the public library systems across the state could help increase usage. Jennifer F. suggested a toolkit for libraries to use. Discussion about the word "database" followed.
- Dennis will connect with Jay Bansbach to encourage Auto Repair database use with career and technology students.
- Daria thanked Stuart and Jennifer F. for their hard work.

DLDS Report (Dennis Nangle) -

- Positions left by Susan Paznekas and Paula Isett will be filled. DLDS is working on cross training staff and documenting procedures to help with transitions and maintaining organizational history.
- End of year IMLS reports are being completed.
- Dennis is also working with Paul Chasen at AskUsNow. Paul discovered that AskUsNow users include a new demographic, post-graduate and non-traditional students.

Other Business
- Wendy reported on the reorganization of staff at Pratt which is also part of their strategic plan. Wendy now heads Collections and Access Services (which included Collection management, Resource Delivery, Digitization, and Documents) Mike heads Information Systems under Administrative Services. This may change who reports at SLRC Commission and at MAPLA meetings.

Adjourn – Jennifer Falkowski moved to adjourn and it was seconded by Margaret Burri at 11:05 a.m.

Next meeting dates:
- February 19th,
- April 16th
- June 18th