Sailor Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2010
State Library Resource Center

Attendees: Audra Caplan, Chair, Ann Smith, Daria Parry, David Paul, Irene Padilla, Jim DeArmey, Kathleen O'Connell, Michael Gannon, Mike Brown, Stuart Ragland

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: The December 17, 2009 meeting notes were approved by unanimous vote.

MARINA Report: Wendy Allen.

Testing was to have begun on January 28 but there have problems with NCIP responder from Harford County. This, combined with the snow, has delayed the process a bit. Carroll is in the middle of Polaris transition. Marina has been fully tested with SIRSI. Proposed implementation by the end of the year is still on the calendar.

Sailor Network Report: Mike Brown.

Allegany County is interested in returning to Sailor. The process has begun to find bandwidth for them. AlCoNet is going to charge more for Internet access. They'll use AlCoNet for intra-county traffic between the branches but will look to Sailor for Internet. Planning is in process for the Hagerstown POP move. Orders have been placed with Verizon. Planning is also in the works for the Easton POP move when Easton moves out of building for renovation.

The videoconferencing system at Montgomery County has been moved from Wheaton to Rockville. Configuration in the Montgomery County network needs to be completed.

A total of 7 bids was received for the security audit. Interviews will start next week with three of the vendors. The bids were generally not strong. If nobody is satisfactory the bid may be reissued. Daria will check with Sydney Drake to see if he'd be able to send/recommend someone and will ask Sydney or his designee to call Mike Brown directly.

Sailor Network Managers Group: Stuart Ragland.

Eight libraries participated by Wimba in a meeting that was well conducted by Nini Beegan. The Wimba environment didn't seem conducive to a successful open discussion. Fewer members participated. The group agreed generally that videoconference is more participative and may be a better meeting solution. Wimba is good for training but possibly not as successful for meetings.

Database Update: Audra Caplan

Issues still need to be resolved surrounding Geo-IP authentication for Gale databases. These involve the need to honor the letter and intent of the agreements with Gale over database access in the schools. There will need to be an addendum to the contract in order to clarify this. Students at home will be able to take advantage of the Geo-IP validation, of course.

Irene stressed that databases purchased with state funding should be purchased for all libraries/library customers, and that the focus should not be on public libraries alone. Ebsco has requested complete information on the negotiations that occurred with Gale. Because of the strategic plan and the priorities that were set through it, funding priorities are Sailor, then Marina, then databases. Irene will work with SLRC to get the best possible funding for databases next year.

MLC Update: Irene Padilla

A business plan has been put together and sent out to groups for input. The plan is nearing final form and will be taken to an MLC meeting. Scheduling for that meeting is in process.

Irene wants to meet with Database Review Committee, Irene and Ann to talk about strategy. Audra will work with Jo Pinder to convene the database review and selection committee. David Paul and Joe Thompson will be included in this group. One of the goals is to get the Regional's to work together to purchase databases.

Budget Update: Ann Smith.

Forty-one percent of the allotted budget was spent halfway through the year. Clarified what monies were spent by Sailor

Sailor Project Quarterly Report: Stuart Ragland.

Stuart presented the report which included the first two quarters of data for Gale databases. Stuart will get numbers from this year and last year so that the group would get some information of comparative level of use.

Director's Requests: Audra Caplan. No director's requests have been submitted.

Next meeting: April 15. 10:15 – 12:00 p.m in the Poe Room of the State Library Resource Center.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

All meetings are 10:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon and are currently scheduled in the Poe Room of the State Library Resource Center.

Committee documents and other useful information is available on the Sailor Advisory Committee web site at: http://www.soc.lib.md.us/sac/.   To reduce wasteful printing, Committee members are requested to take responsibility for printing copies for themselves.