Sailor Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2012

Attendees – Michael Gannon (chair), Stuart Ragland, Mike Brown, Irene Padilla, Wendy Allen, Lami Aromire, Jennifer Ranck, Ann Smith, Lee O'Brien (recorder)

Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the June 14, 2012 meeting were approved with no changes.

Relais/MARINA Update (Wendy Allen) – Wendy presented a detailed report of the progress with Relais which has been made since June. (See Attachment for details). Relais and Polaris have worked out the details of the required NCIP protocol. In general Relais is working with most ILS's. Most libraries are in the testing process or have tested. Some libraries will need to revise workflows if previous hold and pick list routines are not compatible. Relais has made a commitment to solve those problems in the future. The Sept. 30 deadline was missed, but the grant has been extended for another year. Sirsi is committed to maintain URSA until Relais goes live. No requests will be lost during the transition. The new go live date will be Dec. 1 or 15th.

Irene noted that there is a statewide ILL agreement but two systems are not following the agreement consistently.

Sailor FY12 Annual Report (Stuart Ragland) - Stuart reported that the annual report has been posted on the Sailor Website.
http://www.sailor.lib.md.us/committees/sac/Default.aspx?id=54294   Irene suggested that Library Directors be sent the link so they can see and use the data for their systems.

Stuart reported on the Sept. meeting of SNMG. That group discussed the systems' use of Google apps and the video conferencing equipment issue. The consensus at SNMG was that to get to the branch to branch level of conferencing across the state would be ideal. BTOP conduit is being installed around the state managed by Network Maryland. Central Maryland is doing their own. They also discussed best practices using Wi-Fi. Their next meeting will be in November.

Budget (Ann Smith) - Ann presented the closeout fy12 expenditures. A question was raised about the fact that for the year expenditures were larger than budgeted. Ann explained that these expenditures are part of a larger SLRC budget of which Sailor is a part. Ann will arrange to have both budgets available for review at the next meeting.

Video Conferencing Equipment Update (Mike Brown) – Mike reported that the equipment currently in use is at "end of life" with no maintenance support available. He has investigated various options for its replacement which include replacement with new generation equipment or outsourcing the solution. These options cost in the $150,000-$200,000 range and still only cover the state in a limited way. He is trying to locate a more cost effective solution using off the shelf equipment and linking it with service vendors, such as Skype or others who have the capacity to serve multiple sites simultaneously. He believes we should be looking for something more

functional than the "webcam" experience. Discussion ensued covering various options such as industry standard video conferencing as a service; pros and cons of using internet services vs. private video networks or a possible a statewide sailor video network. The consensus was that the existing video conferencing should be used until it no longer works, but a better, cheaper, broader solution should be sought to replace it. Mike was asked to continue his research into the options and report back in December.

Other Business (Irene Padilla) – Irene discussed the need for various consortiums representing all types of libraries around the state and committees including MDCH be brought together to discuss digital content and the products and formats being used. Irene will follow up with Nini Beegan to schedule a meeting and will report to us on the findings.

The next meeting will be held Dec. 20th.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.