

MARINet Board Meeting and Retreat Minutes

February 22, 2012

Novato Library, Meeting Room

9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Anji Brenner (Mill Valley);
Gary Gorka (Dominican)
Sara Houghton (San Rafael);
Frances Gordon (Larkspur);
Linda Kenton (San Anselmo);
Debbie Mazzolini (Belvedere-Tiburon);
Gail Haar (Marin County);
Abbot Chambers (Sausalito);
Deb Moehrke (MARINet).

- I. **Public Comment Period** – no public present at the meeting.
- II. **Introduction of any guests.** Deb introduced Tom Jacobson, Director of Strategic Accounts from Link+, and Kathy McCarthy, Sales Consultant from Innovative Interfaces, Inc.
- III. **Old Business**
 - A. **Presentation of Link+ and Q/A Session with Tom Jacobson**
Mr. Jacobson gave a 40-minute overview of Link+ and its benefits. A Question & Answer session followed.
- IV. **Approval of minutes from December 19, 2011 meeting:**

The minutes were approved - Debbie/Frances 2nd
- V. **Old Business**
 - A. **Hold limits** - Deb Moehrke handed out a spreadsheet listing the number of patrons with holds by both jurisdiction and quantity of holds for the month of January 2012. The Board had been concerned over the potential increase in holds when the \$.50 request fee is eliminated. All MARINet libraries are planning to waive the \$.50 except Larkspur. Larkspur's Director is still in discussion with the City Manager and has not yet received an approval. For the time being, the Board agreed not to impose a limit on the number of holds a patron can place.
 - B. **Link+ participation vote** - The Board discussed the pros and cons of staying with NorthNet Library System – a consortium of public, law and academic libraries in Northern California. Gail Haar mentioned that she is on the committee that will be evaluating the future of NorthNet and they will be meeting on February 28th. It was mentioned that MARINet has to be part of a regional cooperative to qualify for LSTA grant money. Deb Moehrke

presented a four-tiered cost-sharing model for a single delivery stop with Link+. She also included a cost-sharing formula for local delivery costs (quotes from two companies – “Sprint” versus “Northbay Courier Services”). The Board discussed a variety of issues around the one-stop model such as staff time to manage the sorting at the central location. Deb gave an approximate average for the number of items that were shipped through the delivery last year (660,000 items). Anji suggested we contact a library to ask about the cost difference between a one-stop delivery versus a multi-branch stop, to get a better idea of the cost difference.

All Board members agreed to move ahead with negotiations with Link+. Gary from Dominican could not yet commit until he could investigate the possibility of replacing one of his current delivery services with Link+. **Anji volunteered to help with the marketing of Link+. Gail asked Deb to find out the date of the upcoming LINK+ directors meeting. Gail agreed to find out what each member needs to do to officially resign from NorthNet by the end of August / Sept. 1st (NorthNet needs six-month lead-time). Gail will also create a template letter for all the libraries to use as their official resignation letter. The Board suggested another item for the March agenda “investigate database negotiation services” that was once done by NorthNet. A motion was made for MARINet to begin negotiations with LINK+ with the intention of service starting sometime in the next fiscal year. The Board approved the four-tiered cost-sharing formula with a single delivery point (Anji Brenner/ 2nd Linda Kenton). Deb will send out an email asking all member libraries to submit a request in writing to confirm their participation in Link+.**

VI. New Business

A. Budget change resolutions - Deb passed around a resolution to move funds from the Sinking Fund into the operating budget and to increase appropriation in the appropriate GL account to pay for Media Management.

B. MARINet members continuing NBCLS membership – This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting under “Old Business” “B. Link+ participation vote”.

C. SuperSearch invoices payment choices

There was no need to discuss this agenda item because NorthNet reissued a new invoice without any SuperSearch fee.

D. Presentation of preliminary FY12/13 budget

Deb handed out a preliminary budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 and commented that the annual membership fees did not include costs for:

- 1) Link+;
- 2) Funding for Overdrive e-title purchases;
- 3) New database costs;
- 4) Local delivery costs.

Deb handed out an “*Overdrive Activity Report*” for Feb 2012 compiled by Dan McMahon, showing a steady increase in ebook usage. The Board discussed the statistics and asked about continued funding for the Overdrive ebook Collection. It was agreed to leave “overdrive costs out of the budget. **It was recommended to put “Overdrive Collection development” on the agenda for next month.**

Deb discussed the additional delivery costs that each member library would have to pay. Gail recommended the Link+ costs using the agreed upon tiered formula be added into the budget under the annual membership fee and any adjustments for local delivery services and sorting could be added after the costs are known: **A motion was made to approve the preliminary budget for FY 2012-13. Sarah/2nd Debbie Mazzolini.**

E. Loaning Overdrive titles to out of county patron

Gail presented an issue with out-of-County patrons having access to MARINet’s Overdrive Collection. To address this issue, Deb recommended using the Patron Types 52 (out-of-county adult) and 53 (out-of-county juvenile) to authenticate users. **A motion was made to assign out-of-county patrons the above patron types and to ask Overdrive to adjust the authentication, so MARINet is not in violation of its Overdrive contract. Gail/2nd Abbot. Gail recommended Deb send out an email to the Circulation Committee.**

F. Other non-action items - None

VII. Standing Items for the agenda

A. System Administrator’s report

Deb passed out her System Administrator’s Report. Gary asked Deb what the costs were to catalog overdrive records (\$1.50 per title, paid to OCLC).

B. Correspondence - no correspondence

C. Topics for future agenda – 1) database negotiations; 2) overdrive collection development & funding; 3) RFP for local delivery services.

VIII. Announcements

Dominican: Gary reported Dominican hosted a “meet & greet” evening for all reference librarians;

San Anselmo: featured a travel event on “Istanbul” to promote “One Book One Marin”; a Children’s Librarian was hired for 8 hours a week;

Sausalito: continuing its strategic weeding project; launched two best-seller collections;

Belvedere-Tiburon: conducting second interviews for Reference Librarian; planning the annual art auction for March; going through a design approval and engaged in active fund-raising; developed a children's policy for kids to check out a Nook eReader;

MARINet: Deb Moehrke reported College of Marin has contacted MARINet to discuss membership.

San Rafael: the Friends gave the library a \$10,000 donation to purchase technology – staff are buying eReaders and plan to create a “technology Petting Zoo”; staff moved to a reduced work week (36 hours); conducting Director Oral Boards in March;

Mill Valley: hosting another Teen Poetry Slam; staff will video tape the library's popular “Storytelling Event” for the public access channel; the Friends of the Library gave money to upgrade the Creekside Room; the new service, “Book a Librarian” is becoming very popular;

Marin County: West Marin libraries expanding open hours; History Room staff is very involved with this year's County Fair theme “agriculture.” Hiring a Teen Librarian for the Novato Branch; very busy with functional remodel of customer service areas in a number of branches.

Official Meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

IX. Retreat Topics

A. Withdrawing from NorthNet

It was estimated that it would cost \$100,000 overall for administration next year for NorthNet. What precisely that will cover in terms of services is not clear. Gail Haar is part of the transition committee for NorthNet. At their next meeting they will be discussing other potential models. One option is to have minimal fees (e.g. \$100/year) to technically remain a member of a consortium in order to have libraries still be eligible for LSTA funding (were it to return). Members were in favor of this option in principle. Update in March pending.

B. New directions for digital content

Do we continue to put all of our eBook financial resources into OverDrive or as a consortium do we begin to look at other digital services providers. MCFL is piloting Baker & Taylor's eBook product (not launched yet). Sausalito trialed a product called Freading. San Rafael may be subscribing to Rdio through Recorded Books. Dominican is using Naxos for classical and jazz music. Alexander Street Press also offers a digital classical and jazz music collection. Dominican is also looking at digital textbook models, including the new Apple proposition for self-publishing of textbooks. The group consensus seemed to be that individual libraries should experiment with different products and then report back to the group about MARINet-wide offering possibilities. The group had a

lengthy discussion about the benefits and costs of offering existing eBook models and services on a consortium level.

C. Shared catalog / union catalog

The focus of this discussion is what shows up in our catalog—only items that we share with all the other jurisdictions (shared catalog) or also items that are reserved only for local patron jurisdictional use (union catalog). Deb expressed that from MARINet’s point of view, allowing union use of a catalog would fulfill MARINet’s mission of inventory control and promoting materials. Users think they can borrow anything in the catalog, and they can’t when the catalog is being used as a union catalog. Users are often confused about what their home library is. Dominican has a particular concern about this issue because they have a number of electronic materials that are only available to their students and which are not included in their participation in the MARINet catalog. Some of the problems can be solved by authentication around zip code or home library, but in many cases that’s not true. A motion was made by Debbie Mazzolini and seconded by Linda Kenton: “The Board acknowledged its commitment to maintaining the catalog as a shared catalog for the time being, until better options emerge with alternatives for independent jurisdictional access.” Unanimous vote yes. **A motion was made by Gail Haar and seconded by Sarah Houghton that this issue of shared vs. union catalog be placed on every Retreat agenda on an annual basis. Unanimous vote yes.**

D. What we expect from MARINet

Gail raised the issue of MARINet’s future of supporting mobile services. Deb distributed a comparison of mobile catalog applications available to us. We will add this discussion to the next agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

France Gordon, AM session
Sarah Houghton, Retreat portion of meeting