



MPAC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 a.m., Friday, December 2, 2022

Present: Beth Clausen, Dan Daily, Lisa German, Ann Hokanson, Mary Hollerich, Johnna Horton, Cynthia Jorstad (Chair), Ashley Krohn, Stacy Lienemann, Deanna Munson, Molly Niehls, Nekey Oliver, Matt Rosendahl, Maggie Snow, George Seamon, Margaret Stone, Scott Vrieze,

Absent: Ignacio Mendez, Mary Soucie

Guests: Laura Benson, Kay Kirscht, Matt Lee, Zach Miller, Gerri Moeller, Paul Swanson

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cynthia Jorstad called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda & Meeting Minutes

Matt Rosendahl moved to approve the December 2, 2022 [Agenda](#) and the September 9, 2022 Draft [Minutes](#). Stacy Lienemann seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. [Director's Report](#)

Gyade Badio begins as the Minitex Finance Director on December 12, 2022. We are still in the hiring process for a number of positions: the OER Affordable Content Librarian, Web Developer, and Marketing Generalist positions are still open and we will post for a Cataloging and Metadata position in a week or two.

Matt Lee and the Cooperative Purchasing team are gathering statistics to provide guidance on this year's IPEDS reports for academic libraries.

4. Minnesota Shared Print Operations Report

Mary Hollerich, co-chair of the Minnesota Shared Print Operations Committee, noted the group is currently transitioning from CALD to Minitex as the projects administrative home. Kirsten Clark, University of Minnesota, is the other co-chair. Gerri Moeller and Maggie Snow from Minitex are assisting as well.

The project has two phases: the first is data extraction and delivery to OCLC; the second is identifying possible retention models and making our own. The operations committee will meet monthly while working through the project.

Hollerich noted the librarians from the pilot project who laid out a solid plan. The group expects to build on that groundwork.

She also appreciated the collaborative structure of Minitex that makes this project possible, especially for smaller libraries that are not as well funded.

5. [Minitex Site Visits Report](#)

Snow shared the strategic goal to ensure all libraries' staff understand Minitex operations. She noted the staff team developing a process for the goal. Zach Miller, team member, said seven site visits are planned in Minnesota, one in North Dakota, and one in South Dakota.

The team had two site visits to date with libraries and a third with museum directors in southwest Minnesota. The South Dakota virtual site visit is scheduled for December 13. Thanks go to Dan Daily, USD, for helping set that up. The site visit with Metro East is scheduled for January 26. We plan to finish by early spring.

Policy Advisory Council member Stacy Lienemann attended the first session there easy a good, though brief discussion on the state of libraries; challenges, and what staff are working on. She noted it is an opportunity to discuss collaboration ideas.

6. MNLINK Operations Report - Gerri Moeller

Moeller gave an overview of MNLINK, the statewide discovery platform for interlibrary loan, administered by Minitex. Currently, patrons can request from MNLINK directly and have items delivered to their local library. Library users search both Minnesota libraries and libraries around the United States and then request using their local library card.

The current system reaches end-of-life in 2024 so a MNLINK transition team is developing an RPF for a replacement system. Moller noted agreements with MNLINK sites will be renewed with the new system is in place.

7. State LSTA 5-year Plans, Minnesota and South Dakota Minnesota

Tami Lee, Director of State Library Services, provided an overview of the SLS work and department structure. In 2023, they will be onboarding new staff, targeting grants to libraries, and implementing a new strategic plan. The updated 5-year plan focuses on building coalitions to increase collections impact, partnering for reimagined access for all Minnesotans, and changing the narrative to showcase libraries' contributions to thriving communities.

South Dakota - George Seamon

George Seamon, South Dakota State Librarian, provided an overview of state library structure and services. The state library is a division of the South Dakota Department of Education and oversees the South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Library, outreach, and access-services divisions.

The updated South Dakota 5-year addresses underserved audiences including academic libraries. The State Library will participate in a statewide literacy program, plan to provide software and tech support for our libraries, and mobile hot spots for students. Their work will focus on realigning, renaming, and rebranding the Braille and Talking Book Library to expand its audience.

In January, they will launch the Entry License program, which are passes for state parks, issued to patrons free of charge. We also issue citizen science kits to monitor pollinators.

8. (Postponed) SELCO Community Assessment - Krista Ross

9. Office of Higher Education Update - Laura Benson & Nekey Oliver

Governor Walz won reelection and the DFL took both chambers in the State Legislature. OHE staff are currently managing expectations for the new year. The budget proposals have been sent to the Governor's office and more information about the budgets will be available in January. There is a significant amount of supplemental funding or surplus in the budget, but that funding is limited to one-time spending. The funding request for Minitex to support nursing databases is among our budget proposals.

10. Other

Johnna Horton announced that five northern-Minnesota institutions of Minnesota State, Hibbing Community College, Itasca Community College, Mesabi Range College, Rainy River Community College, and Vermilion Community College, have completed their merger. The new school name is Minnesota North College.

Scott Vrieze shared that the City of Moorhead recently approved a referendum to pay for a combination regional library/community center. The cost of the building could amount to \$31 million. Liz Lynch, the head of Lake Agassiz Regional Library, is understandably excited.

Hannah Buckland, Department of Employment and Economic Development, met with CRPLSA in October to discuss her new role overseeing federal funding for digital equity. This will support broadband infrastructure, digital skills training, and access to broadband for those who cannot afford it. The regional public are exploring their role in these initiatives.

Maggie Snow added that Dakota County and Saint Paul Public Library have remodeling projects slated for 2024, as do Blue Earth County and Two Harbors. The recent CALD meeting explored the conversion of space from book storage to service.

Beth Clausen described the first-floor refresh that will take place at Metro State over winter break. It will include new furniture and carpeting. Metro State is seeking to hire a Library Operations Manager and a Library Technician. They have been overwhelmed with applications.

Ann Hokanson announced that Shelly Grace, Director of Prairielands Library Exchange, a multi-county multi-type, is retiring in December. Her position has been filled, and the new hire will bring a wealth of school experience to the role. It will be a hybrid position, only requiring part-time work in the office and avoiding the requirement of moving to the area. MELSA came up with a way to provide Overdrive to Traverse des Sioux, SELCO, and Martin Luther College that just went live.

Lisa German stated that, as of January, the University Libraries will have a full leadership team. The University Libraries are in the pre-design phase for a combined student center/library on the Saint Paul campus.

11. Adjournment - Cynthia Jorstad