

SAILS Board Meeting

September 17, 2008

Present: Jayme Viveiros (Acushnet), Betty Gregg (Bridgewater), Carole Julius (Carver), Denise Medeiros (Dartmouth), Jocelyn Tavares (Dighton), Manny Leite (East Bridgewater), Carrie Tucker (East Bridgewater High Schools), Carolyn Longworth (Fairhaven), Jerry Cirillo (Foxboro), Nancy Cappellini (Hanson), Olivia Melo (Lakeville), Janet Campbell (Mansfield), Susan Berteaux (Mass. Maritime Academy), Deborah Wall (Pembroke), Melissa Campbell (Plainville), Deborah Batson (Plympton), Eden Ferguson (Raynham), Gail Roberts (Rochester), Bonnie Mendes (Somerset); Debbie Conrad, Laurie Lessner, Bob DeMache, Kristen Slater – SAILS; special guest: Jackie Rafferty, MLA Legislative Committee

President Melissa Campbell called the meeting to order at 10:15

Jackie Rafferty of the MLA Legislative Committee made a presentation before the business part of the meeting. She urged us to become strong advocates for libraries, both state and nationally, in light of the upcoming vote to rescind the personal income tax, Question 1 on the November ballot. She showed us Capwiz, a link from the legislative portion of MLA's site that makes it easy to contact our legislators. The BLC is very worried about Question 1; passage of this will end library services as we know them today, eliminating both the BLC and the regional offices. She also urged us to let our legislators and town officials know how much we rely on the monies from 9506. To that end, Debbie will be sending out a letter informing us as to how much we receive from this account, as this does not show up on the cherry sheets. Jackie urged us to communicate regularly with our legislators, as they have the opinion that librarians are apathetic.

Secretary Gail Roberts (Rochester) conducted the roll call.

Nancy Cappellini (Hanson) made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Bonnie Mendes (Somerset) seconded. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Warrant 03.2.09 Motion to approve made by Carole Julius (Carver), seconded by Bonnie Mendes (Somerset). Approved unanimously.

FY09 financial reports

The balance sheet as of 8/31/08 was presented: there is money in the Money Market account. It appears that there is not as much ready cash available, as Debbie is waiting for some members to make their annual payments. Debbie presented the Income Statement, which showed that she had made the necessary changes on line items, and that we were not receiving as much return on investments as previous, but overall, SAILS is in a good financial position.

FY08 Audit

Board members received copies of the annual audit, done by Ed Sylvia, Certified Public Accountant. Results include the information that the cash reserves are such that SAILS will be able to weather any upcoming financial problems.

FY09 Investment Plan

We have a new investment advisor at Eastern Bank, who met with Debbie recently., She suggested an investment plan, which Debbie presented to the Board. She suggested that we purchase longer-term bonds, buy commercial paper (i.e. short-term notes), setting aside money to put into equities, 1/3 at a time, once the market is stable. Debbie will be purchasing some bonds that can't be recalled, and will have the interest will go into our money market accounts. Eastern Bank now has a separate section for socially responsible investing, that we will be looking into in the future.

Old Business

User Experience Grant

Equipment purchase will be with CDW, from whom Debbie obtained a quote of \$10,547.34 for installation and configuration of equipment, plus \$1300 to SIRSI for servicing Bistro. We will be able to run old Ibistro until new one is up. This is the cornerstone of rest of grant.

Proposal from Landlord

HVAC people said our unit needs to be replaced. Debbie agreed to sign a 3-year lease at higher fixed rate, but the landlord will need to replace the unit using our vendor. We can sign another 3-year lease later if we want to. Debbie pointed out that we will get a cost savings when the new HVAC unit is more efficient.

New Business

MBLC Hearings

SAILS collected written testimony consisting of comments from our patrons. This will be available in machine-readable format. Lobbying efforts will be increased when the election is over. Everyone gets 20 copies of annual report, plus more copies of value of service to be used with FinComs and other town boards. Melissa Campbell (Plainville) has value of service formula that shows the return for taxpayers' investments that she will share upon request, and that is available on her library's website.

UUGI Consortia Users Group Meeting Report – Kristin Slater

Kristin went to Secaucus for the SIRSI/Dynix users group meeting, where the biggest complaint was about client care. SIRSI response was that they are working with their client care reps, improving training, etc.

Erate – FY09

We were given additional money prorated for past 2 years, and our discount was increased to 43%. Debbie is contacting Verizon for Centrex and cell phone lines. The DSL line for Assonet may not be done because of CIPA concerns.

UMass Internet Line

Debbie presented a graph of internet bandwidth usage from 9/07 – 8/08, which shows peaks and valleys in usage. She may drop one line not being used, which will mean a savings of \$10,000/year after December. She will apply the cost savings to Comcast line.

Executive Director's Report

The highlights of Debbie's report include: the return of school members, most of whom have no staff or aides. Debbie will be moving the schools over to either web client or java client, getting them off the c-client. They have also changed how student records are being loaded, so we'll be seeing some differences in the user cat 1 sections. Accelerated reader data has been loaded. Annual report is mostly complete and has been sent to printer. To train staff to use Overdrive, Laurie will come out to the library. The training takes 1 1/2 – 2 hours, but she can tailor it to the library's needs. There is a door prize of an MP3 player for staff attending the workshop. PC support: Jorge is doing many installations and repairs. The contracts for the Pubpac grant have arrived from BLC.

Other Business

Pembroke Library will be 130 years old in October, though building itself is 10 years old. There will be a big celebration.

Mass Maritime: state has funded the new information commons. The design phase will take place in mid-October, with construction starting in 2009. American Bureau of Shipping gave money for naming rights.

Bridgewater: town meeting overturned selectmen's cuts and a readathon raised \$23000 for book money. They will be able to hire more part-time staff and will be open more hours.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Bonnie Mendes (Somerset), and was seconded by Susan Berteaux (Mass Maritime).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Roberts
Secretary