

Metronet Governing Board Meeting · Tuesday, November 13, 2018 · 3:00 p.m. · Suite 320

Present: Paul Ryberg, Tom Shaughnessy, Diane Wallace-Reid, Anne Rojas, Tori Jensen, Lindsey Dyer
Staff: Ann Walker Smalley, Deanna Sylte

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

II. Approval of agenda

Tom Shaughnessy moved to approve the agenda as presented; Diane Wallace-Reid seconded; approved unanimously.

III. Minutes of 9/18/18 meeting

Diane Wallace-Reid moved to approve the 9/18/18 minutes as written; Anne Rojas seconded; approved unanimously.

Anne Rojas volunteered to take minutes at future meetings.

IV. Approval of September and October 2018 Bills

Tori Jensen moved to approve the September and October 2018 checks written; Lindsey Dyer seconded; approved unanimously.

V. Financial Statement – October 2018

Informational only.

VI. Old Business/Updates

A. MILI

Going well in both Mpls and Elk River; may use online alternative if weather gets bad; asking participants to invite Olivia to speak in classrooms; most Mpls participants doing ProPay; a couple in Elk River taking course for Hamline credit; Paul Ryberg expressed interest in sitting in on a MILI session – Ann will have Olivia send him the schedule.

VII. New Business

A. Legislative Update

Ann handed out a draft of proposed updates to 134.351. The key piece is changing the governance structure of the “standalone” multitypes like Metronet – will not change SELS, TdS, Arrowhead (hybrid regional/multitypes); proposal is to have a board only of librarians – no citizens; new board would be made up of between 5-9 library members. The hope is to reduce the entanglement of regional public and multitype boards. The proposed language would also shift the focus to school, academic and special libraries; public libraries could still be members upon request under the category of “other libraries.” Create uniformity, make more understandable to the legislature, and make it clear that regional public and multitype systems are different. The number of years people are allowed to serve on the board is still being determined. Expected that the MLA/ITEM Legislative Committee will support this issue.

i.. Northern Lights Library Network

Regional public library system directors and multitype directors met in July and came up with idea to ask for funding under one line-item rather than two separate lines; the director of NLLN seems to have misinterpreted the intent of the change and seems to think the one line item ask would mean regional public and multitype systems merging. She has engaged in slander against various people, refuses to attend any meetings on the issue, and had her board pass a resolution opposing any changes even before the draft was available. Also refused to pay NLLN’s share of the multitype portion of the lobbyist contract. Multitypes each pay a share based on their funding formula.

NLLN's refusal prompted the letter written by Mary Jordan of CMLE (chair of the Multitype Library System Directors group). Letter sent to NLLN director and the chair and secretary of the NLLN board.

The proposed change would primarily mean that public libraries could be members of their multitype system and could be elected to the board, but the regional public library system would not be able to appoint members to the multitype board.

Waiting to see what happens in response to the letter. CRPSLA and multitypes meet again in December; will update the board at the January meeting.

B. Work plan for remote staff

Proposal is that Deanna will remain associated with Metronet as a contract employee beginning January 1, 2019. Will continue bookkeeping, website updates, and other duties as needed. Work up to 15 hours per week; Ann and Olivia will absorb other duties. Procedures going digital – bills and receipts scanned; checks printed and mailed to Ann for signature. Board packets will be sent out via PDF. Will do this on a temporary basis to determine how it goes. Silver lining: saving on salary and benefits. Diane Wallace-Reid, Anne Rojas and Tori Jensen volunteered to help during busy times as needed (ie stuffing envelopes, etc). Possibility of hiring an intern from St. Kate's on a very part-time basis as well.

VIII. Multitype Strategic Planning – contribution request

Request for a motion for Metronet to go ahead as a partner in the strategic planning process for the multitypes. Purpose is primarily to explore how to collaborate statewide to expand services and programs. Metronet would like to use part of the remaining MNLFI and MOTSE funds to support the process. Other multitypes will also contribute. *Anne Rojas moved to authorize a contribution of up to \$3,000 for participation in the multicounty systems joint strategic planning process to cover project expenses, including hiring a consultant, with the understanding that the other systems will also contribute. The money to come from the MOTSE/Futurist reserve. Tori Jensen seconded. Approved unanimously.*

IX. Director's Report

AWS gave an overview of Metronet activities (written report provided to board).

X. Other / Board Sharing

- Lindsey Dyer is planning the SLA holiday party – January 28. Announcement with details forthcoming. 75th anniversary of the chapter.
- Sam Walseth will talk about the 2018 elections and predictions for 2019 at the December legislative meeting via Zoom.
- Anne Rojas attended the Internet Librarian conference in October.

XI. Next Meeting – January 15, 2019

XII. Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.