Approved 10/16/23
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railslibraries.org

Minutes

RAILS Board Consortia Committee Meeting

Monday, July 17, 2023 |10:00 am
RAILS Burr Ridge and Videoconference Sites
125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 | 630.734.5000

1. Welcome and Call to Order
   Stagg, Committee Chairperson, greeted members and called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. Roll Call of Members
   Murray called roll of the RAILS Board Consortia Committee.
   Burr Ridge: Matt Hammermeister, Pinnacle; Martin Kong, CARLI; Rene Leyva, RAILS; Aaron Skog, SWAN, Tom Stagg, RAILS
   East Peoria: Kendal Orrison, RSA
   Coal Valley: Carolyn Coulter, PrairieCat

3. Recognition of Guests and Announcements
   Burr Ridge: Anna Behm, Monica Harris, Mary Kate Murray, Anne Slaughter, Alex Vancina
   East Peoria: Antony Deter
   Coal Valley: None
   Via Zoom: Eric Bain, Emily Faulkner, Kate Hall, Gwen Harrison, Leila Heath, Ryan Hebel, Tim Jarzemsky, Jen Masciadrelli, Megan Millen, Barb Miller, Stacy Palmisano, Jennifer Slaney, Alissa Williams

4. Public Comments
   There were no public comments.

5. Adoption of the Consent Agenda
   5.1. Adoption of the Agenda
   5.2. Approval of the RAILS Board Consortia Committee Minutes of April 24, 2023
       Skog moved and Orrison seconded that the RAILS Board Consortia Committee adopt the consent agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Reports
   6.1. Committee Chair Report
       There was no Committee Chair report.

   6.2. Consortial Reports
       Pinnacle has updated their communication SMS notices to the MessageBee platform. SWAN has translated their email notices to Polish and Spanish as well as their previously available English messaging. The translations were done by multilingual SWAN staff members, and the

messaging system went live in late June 2023. Skog offered SWAN's translated messages as templates for other LLSAPs to use.

6.3. RAILS Report
Hall noted that the Digital Equity Capacity Kickstarter program link needed to be updated due to the State of Illinois website relaunch. The new link was shared: https://dceo.illinois.gov/aboutdceo/grantopportunities/3170-2571.html. Slaughter clarified that the new RAILCAR data set questions, complied in a webform, are part of the FY2025 LLSAP Support Grant Application, which will be available at the end of July 2023. Slaughter agreed to send the RAILCAR data webform to LLSAPs early in preparation for the application, and confirmed that fee and financial data are a large component of the RAILCAR data report. The committee discussed potential audiences for the RAILCAR data and the difficulties in finding a standardized and equitable fee structure for LLSAP membership across the state for all library types.

6.4. Resource Sharing Committee Report
Harris spoke about Explore More Illinois's new Community College Pilot project in collaboration with CARLI as well the addition of Chicago Public Library to the program, which greatly expanded its reach and use. Harris discussed the streamlining of Delivery training and workflows through how-to videos for RAILS staff and members and a new app that will help in gathering data and identifying trends around the quarterly counts of materials. Skog requested that the Resource Sharing Committee analyze and report on more resource sharing data, and discussed the pros, cons, and logistics of standardizing library automation. The Resource Sharing Committee Report will continue to be included in the Consortia Committee meeting packets.

7. Unfinished Business
7.1. Consortia Committee charge
Coulter noted that the charge was sufficiently reviewed in previous years. No changes to the charge were needed.

8. New Business
8.1. Current state of eBook consortia in Illinois
Behm presented the major e-content consortia in Illinois, how their use varies across different libraries, consortia, and library systems throughout the state. E-Read Illinois started as a grant funded program in 2013 to expand access to e-Books in Illinois. RAILS' e-Read is an opt-in program, and one hundred percent of the fees that members pay into the program go toward collection development. Behm discussed the complexity of managing a large e-content consortium including the large number of participating schools, each with different needs, as well as determining equitable fee structures, dealing with technological issues or changes at the vendor level, and helping libraries manage e-collections across multiple platforms. Programs like Simply-E or The Palace Project have worked on solutions to managing multiple collections. Moving forward, Heath and Behm are optimistic about Baker and Taylor's shift from Axis 360 to Boundless.

8.2. Post-Pandemic Remote and Hybrid Work Practices
Coulter shared that PrairieCat went completely remote as of July 1, 2023, and that remote work tends to work well for PrairieCat staff. Orrison reported that RSA staff is in the office one

day per week so staff can work on team building and collaborative projects. Malinowski reported that staff at CCS must be in the office at least one day a month. Malinowski asked about language for a policy indicating that remote work cannot substitute for childcare. Coulter and Harris offered PrairieCat's and RAILS' policies as an example. Hammermeister noted that Pinnacle is still in-person at their office within a member library.

9. Meeting Recap and Agenda Building for the Next RAILS Board Consortia Committee Meeting
    The next RAILS Board Consortia Committee meeting will be held on October 16, 2023, at 10:00am. Agenda items will include information on the delivery process and automation.

10. Adjournment
    Stagg adjourned the meeting at 11:33 am.