

COMPASS USERS' GROUP
Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, September 28, 2005
Mt. Iron, MN

Members Present:

Shari Fisher-ALS, Mark Koukol-ALS, Jim Weikum-ALS; Paula Chapman-Aurora, Debby Bocnuk-Babbitt, Mary Lukkarila-Cloquet, MaryBeth Kafut- Eveleth, Ginny Richmond-Gilbert, Janet Coy-Grand Rapids Public, Terry Moore-Hibbing/Chisholm, Nancy Riesgraf-Hibbing, Sue Sowers-Hoyt Lakes, Diane Adams-International Falls, Julie Billings, Silver Bay, Sue Thompson-Two Harbors, Nancy Maxwell-Virginia, and Linda J. Wadman, NCLC.

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Lukkarila at 10:00 a.m.

The minutes of the July 27, 2005 meeting were presented. Moved by J. Coy, second by S. Sowers to approve minutes as amended. **Motion passed.**

COMPASS AND COMPUTER RELATED ISSUES:

Questions or problems with Horizon functions: It was asked how extended (13 digit) ISBN are being handled by Horizon, where they are/should be placed in MARC records, etc.

SpamAssassin: Automatic tagging of ***SPAM*** still results in many unwanted messages with the threshold at 7. It was decided that the level 6 messages would be tagged for a couple weeks to see if that eliminates more without losing wanted messages.

Update: Technical Services Librarian Vacancy: J. Weikum announced that ALS will be interviewing Shelley Rogers from Indianapolis/Marion County Library next Wednesday, October 5. She looks like an excellent candidate with Horizon experience.

Pre-overdue e-mail reminders (Alpah-G): M. Koukol reported on a private company, Alpha-G , which has a \$1,000 base price and the capability of sending single notices to whole family. There is also a product called Library Elf but that company would need password access to private patron data in our system.

Wireless projects in member libraries & the ALS Wide Area Network: Security concerns and lack of control over file downloads/uploads (which affect available bandwidth) are issues. Traffic would need to be filtered through iPrism to meet filtering guidelines. There was a big, long discussion of the various pros and cons of providing wireless access to patrons.

Staff reports (re: COMPASS and computer issues):

Mark Koukol: Horizon 4.01 is not compatible with MNLink Get It. ALS is waiting for 4.1 which is hoped to have this problem fixed.

Shari Fisher: Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2) grants - An announcement of awards was due out August 31 but there has been no word since July. It is now looking like a 2006 project. ALS matching funds will need to be forwarded from the 2005 to 2006 budget.

Jim Weikum: State Library Building Grants are also still in limbo.

LIBRARY ISSUES (non-computer):

Legislative: 2006 Platform is being developed. J. Weikum handed out the current DRAFT. He expressed concern about a library construction grant proposal of \$10 million (for 2 yrs, a.k.a \$5 million for each year of the biennium) considering that this session's \$1 million does not yet have an application available. Other concerns were a Fond du Lac college library addition that might include the public library and K-12 "information and technology literacy" standards which aren't well supported by education professionals.

Licensed databases: Discussion of whether to renew Biography Index or consider something different. Vehicle repair and home repair/Fix It databases were mentioned. J. Billings stated Silver Bay would be interested in genealogy or downloadable audiobooks. Ebooks and companies like Overdrive and NetLibrary were also discussed.

Link on ALS website for area Used Book sales: J. Weikum suggested this as a more flexible method of listing book sales instead of the bookmark idea he had previously. This would allow additions and changes to be more readily and frequently made. A link to other book sale listing websites could be included.

Staff reports:

Weikum: State Library will be hosting Town Meetings for the SL Plan. Tentative dates for our area are Monday, Nov. 28 in Grand Rapids and Tuesday Nov. 29 at ALS. Day and evening sessions will be held to allow input from library personnel and the general public. SELCO is developing a poster that will list all the Town Meetings throughout the state. Like many State Library programs lately, this one is way behind the originally planned schedule.

Linda Wadman –NCLC: Three Soaring to Excellence events are scheduled for the coming year. The first is "Google and Your Patrons", to be broadcast Friday, Nov. 18, 11-12:30.

Other:

- Cloquet Public Library has received a grant from the MN Humanities Commission for a local writers panel. The \$750 grant and program is being co-sponsored by the Historical Society.
- An NEH grant for Hibbing has been completed using the new electronic application. This format is required for Federal grants and can be found at Grants.gov. Although complicated, the good news is, once the application is completed it can be used to apply for a wide variety of grants.
- D. Adams reported that International Falls High School has a librarian again. There were 3 years worth of purchased books found, still in the shipping cartons when the new person took over. She is currently weeding. The schools continue to come to the public library to facilitate book delivery.
- J. Billings, Silver Bay Public also works with school system (incl. Two Harbors) to provide delivery.
- There are lots of book sales scheduled this week: Cloquet, Silver Bay, Two Harbors, Aurora.
- Grand Rapids has been able to provide a number of author programs in conjunction with the new community radio station. The KAXE building is next door (across the parking lot) so authors interviewed on the radio are easily available to speak at the library. A great collaboration!

The next COMPASS meeting is scheduled for October 26. The November meeting, the last meeting scheduled for 2005, was to be Nov. 30. Consider in October how the State Library Town Meetings on Nov. 28 & 29 may affect the November meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

Submitted by Ginny Richmond, COMPASS secretary, 10/24/05.