

COMPASS USERS' GROUP

DRAFT

Meeting minutes of Wednesday, December 3, 2008

DRAFT

Members present:

Paula Chapman/Aurora, Debby Bocnuk/Babbitt, Mary Lukkarila/Cloquet, Renee Zurn/Duluth, David Ouse/Duluth, MaryBeth Kafut/Eveleth, Amy Hay/Gilbert, Ginny Richmond/Hibbing, Sue Sowers/Hoyt Lakes, Deb Shaw/Moose Lake, Linda Wadman/NCLC, Julie Billings/Silver Bay, Sue Thompson/Two Harbors, Dawn Heisel/Virginia, Nancy Maxwell/Virginia; Shari Fisher/ALS, Rebecca Patton/ALS, Jim Weikum/ALS

President Nancy Maxwell called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Introductions were made by all present.

M/S to approve minutes of October 22 meeting as corrected (Library issues/ASCOLD Representative/ "Mary Lukkarila/Cloquet is the 1st representative")/**Motion passed.**

COMPASS AND COMPUTER RELATED ISSUES

Questions or problems with Horizon functions: None reported

Horizon news, updates & upgrades: No news

ILS replacement process: The Ipac committee has met and the reports committee will be meeting.

Strategy for addressing frequent power outages in Mountain Iron:

- ALS is looking into a generator but in the meantime is upgrading the uninterruptible power supply unit. Mark is also looking into other options for moving the servers onto a more stable power supply.

OCLC CatExpress Training @ALS: December 9&10, 2008:

- Minitex will be providing CatExpress training; there are currently openings.

Election of 2009 COMPASS officers:

- M/S by Renee Zurn/Ginny Richmond to elect current officers for another term. **Motion passed.** Officer will remain Nancy Maxwell/Virginia: President, Susan Thompson/Two Harbors: Vice-President, Paula Chapman/Aurora: Secretary.

Staff reports: None

Other: None

LIBRARY ISSUES

Prioritization of possible additional licensed databases:

- The ALS Board will consider the budget next week; an amount of \$29,000 has been proposed for databases. The RASAL (reference) committee met to consider if the current databases (Biography Resource Center and Reference USA) are still useful and to narrow down a list of other databases to

consider. Gale noted that the Biography Resource Center usage is fairly high and RASAL thought it to be a useful database. Additional databases RASAL suggested considering include:

- Heritage Quest (a genealogy database that allows remote user access)
- Small Engine Repair (includes repair information, wiring diagrams, and drawings for various small engines including those for ATV's, lawnmowers, snowmobiles, motorcycles, tractors, and outboards. Duluth currently subscribes and its patrons find it useful; it allows remote user access)
- Gale Legal Forms database (libraries can purchase forms for their state; Duluth previously subscribed but dropped it due to some forms being outdated and the availability of free forms online)
- Duluth News Tribune Newsbank.
- Other databases suggested by those present at the ALS meeting included PriceIt (antique values) and a health database.
- Those present at the ALS meeting were most interested in the Heritage Quest and Small Engine Repair databases; Rebecca will request pricing information.

OverDrive and downloadable “e-books”:

- OverDrive is offering downloadable e-books that work on the Sony Reader; Rebecca inquired if there would be interest in adding them from remaining downloadable audio book funds. Those present felt that patrons are more interested in audio books than in e-books. Rebecca noted that some patrons read ebooks on cell phones and have inquired about their availability from ALS.
- Amy H./Gilbert asked about the Playaway audio books and wondered if some might be included in the ALS rotating audio book collections. Shari Fisher will look into this possibility.
- OverDrive use is fairly stable. Perhaps once iPod-compatible titles are released, libraries might consider doing more publicity. OverDrive has a publicity campaign planned for June or July.

“Cheat sheet”: who does what at ALS:

- A list of ALS staff and their areas of responsibility was distributed; if there are more areas that should be included on the list, let Shari know.
- If the person listed is not available, please ask who else might be able to help you in their absence.

Staff reports: Rebecca Patton

- Rebecca is in the process of finding a presenter for a marketing workshop that will be offered in the early months of 2009. There will be a workshop in April about Reference in the Electronic Age.
- Several new titles have been added to the Professional collection. They include Gotcha Good! (nonfiction reader's advisory), A Crash Course in Marketing for Libraries, and Running a Book Club.
- Everyone is reminded to complete the tech inventory required for pre-eligibility for the next round of Gates grants.

Staff reports: Jim Weikum

- Jim will schedule a general meeting for all libraries with library long-range planning consultant Whitney Crettol and will let libraries know of the date when he has one. The library schedule for meeting with Whitney has been slightly revised based on library need; all affected libraries agreed to the change. Whitney is already working with some of the first-round libraries; they reported a positive experience working with her and a positive response from the community as well.

- A summary report from the Minnesota Funding Committee has been put out. Members of the library community have been working on examining Maintenance of Effort language and requirements in an effort to find modifications that will help cities without hurting libraries.
- Jim went to a Minitex-sponsored presentation on the “From Awareness to Funding” document put out by OCLC and sponsored by the Gates Foundation. The presenter gave very powerful information about the future of libraries and their ability to obtain funding. Jim would like to look into having this presentation in the ALS region, perhaps at the annual dinner. ALS has a copy of the OCLC report in the professional collection; it may also be found online and downloaded. It contains mission-critical information that would be useful to Library Boards as well as staff.
- The ALS Board has approved assuming the monthly automation fees for all libraries within the ALS region whose home counties meet the minimum funding levels.

NCLC:

- Linda W. handed out a library use value calculator; she suggested handing them out to patrons and asking them to fill in their data and to share the value of the library to them with their elected officials.
- NCLC is looking at database funds; they are considering funding a new online database.
- NCLC has scholarship funds still available for continuing education; forms may be requested from Linda.

Other:

- Renee Z./Duluth: The Duluth Public Library Director position will be advertised in January.
- Linda W./NCLC: A state plan for libraries document is in the works. It may be found on the State Department of Education web page, and will be presented next week at the Advisory Council meeting.
- MLA: Jim. W. and Mary L. reported attending good sessions at MLA. Mary also said she got many good ideas for remodeling their library at a PLA meeting.
- Cloquet Public Library will be acquiring a self-checkout machine, and will look at RFID in the future. Hibbing Public Library is also looking into a self-checkout machine.
- Amy H./Gilbert: JoAnne Hoole will be retiring on December 18; there will be an open house for her in Gilbert on December 16 at the library from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Sue T./Two Harbors: Sue asked if any libraries had done memorial brick etching; Two Harbors will be putting a patio in front of the library and are considering selling memorial bricks/pavers as a fundraiser.

2009 Meeting Dates and locations:

- February 25
- March 18 (March 25 is Legislative Day)
- April 22
- May 27
- August 26
- September 23
- October 28
- December 2

All meetings will be held at ALS unless otherwise determined.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Next meeting date: TBA (will be Wednesday, January 21 or 28, 2008—there will be an all-COMPASS meeting with Whitney Crettol on the same day)

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Chapman, Secretary