

**Wisconsin Public Library Consortium**  
**Digital Library Steering Committee Meeting Notes**

April 17, 2020 10:00 AM

Via zoom

**ATTENDEES:** Eric Branske (Hales Corner/MCFLS), Shawn Carlson (Waukesha/BLS), Michael DeVries (Beloit/ALS), Noreen Fish (La Crosse/WRLS), Dominic Frandrup (Antigo/WVLS), Jamie Hein (Clintonville/OWLS), Sue Heskin (Superior/NWLS), Judy Pinger (Milwaukee/MCFLS), Kelly Rohde (Mead/MLS) Rachel Hitt (Brillion/MCLS), Jessica MacPhail (Racine/LLS), Eric Norton (McMillan/SCLS), Amy Stormberg (Amery/IFLS), Molly Warren (Madison/SCLS), Maureen Welch (IFLS), Karina Zidon (Platteville/SWLS)

**ABSENT:** Abby Armour (Johnson Creek/BLS), Annie Bahringer (Hustisford/MLS), Heidi Cox (McFarland/SCLS), Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm (Neenah/WFLS), Tina Kakuske (Door County/NLS), Clare Kindt (Brown County/NLS), Jennifer Loeffel (Franklin/MCFLS), Rob Nunez (Kenosha/KCLS), Martha Spangler (Altoona/IFLS)

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

**2. Review Agenda – changes or additions**

There were no additions to the agenda. Item 6.a was moved to 5.a due to a presentation by OverDrive representatives.

**3. Approval of minutes – [February 20, 2020](#)**

*Motion:* Approval of Minutes

*Moved to approve:* J. Pinger

*Second:* M. Warren

*Results:* Motion passed

*Discussion:* None

**4. Reports: Committees, Workgroups and Project Manager Updates**

a. Decisions made between 02/20/2020 and 4/17/2020 meetings: It was noted that there were no decisions made since the last meeting.

b. WPLC Board Report

M. Welch reported that the Board met on Feb 21<sup>st</sup>. Historical and Local Digital Collections Committee reported that the NAA platform is not working so they are exploring moving to a new one. A timeline was laid out for the process through 2022. The Board reviewed the 2020-21 budget and discussed the Annual meeting. They also talked about advocacy as a potential R & D project. It was mentioned at the last SRLAAW meeting that WPLC should be governance body for shared, state-wide, technology efforts and a workgroup was formed to further discuss and develop a proposal. Finally, it was discussed that WiLS is no longer running the WPLC Support Course so systems may run that course, if interested, moving forward. The Board also reviewed a variety of documents for the consortium as part of an annual process.

c. Selection Committee

S. Gold reported the Selection Committee met Feb 13<sup>th</sup> and the selectors have selected the titles and designated quantities for all Macmillan titles that had been embargoed since November 2019. Those titles have been added to the Wi Digital Library as of yesterday. A report for the \$250,000 in LSTA funding will be provided later in the meeting.

- d. Collection Development Committee  
It was noted an update will be given as agenda item 5.a.

## 5. Ongoing Discussion Items

### a. Collection Development Committee DRAFT Recommendation

At the last Steering Committee meeting, the group reviewed the draft recommendations and made some suggested changes. The Collection Development Committee met and reviewed the feedback from both the Board and Steering and incorporated that feedback into the draft. Since this body last met, considerable changes have happened in the world that greatly affect how we work and the services we provide, and in addition, affect potential changes to future funding. The group discussed the buying pool funding increase recommendation in light of these new circumstances.

There are concerns that an increase may not be realistic post-pandemic and there is a suggestion to hold off on an increase for the 2021 budget until there is a better idea of how public library budgets may be affected and reconsider the increase for 2022.

There is excitement from some systems to move forward with the increase and see what that impact would look like. It was stated this is an opportunity for systems to get input from their libraries about adding additional funds and it is time for libraries to do everything they can to make sure their library puts extra money into the digital collection.

It was noted we should keep in mind whether this pandemic will change borrowing patterns overall all. The digital library has seen a great increase in use in the past month. Are users going to be more leery of going into their physical libraries and more willing to utilize electronic resources? In which case even with shrinking budgets we may see a greater need for electronic resources over physical materials.

It was stated that if OverDrive use increases, libraries need to support that increase and pay for it.

It was noted that some systems are interested in bolstering additional funding in the Advantage accounts to help meet demand and mitigate holds and keep it on the local level.

It is known that the consortium needs more money for the demand and need of the digital library, however, even before the pandemic and budget uncertainties, an increase of even just 5% was going to be a stretch, now it may be impossible.

There was a question for clarification about what the buying pool funds go toward. It was clarified that right now the funds all go toward Wisconsin's Digital Buying Pool which is as of April 1, 2020, just OverDrive as we no longer have access to BiblioBoard titles and products.

The Committee was tasked with taking the feedback from this meeting back to their systems and libraries to begin an internal discussion prior to the WPLC Annual Meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Patron Focus Group**

This is an opportunity to discuss and identify questions for the WPLC Patron Focus Group.

There were no questions or suggestions.

**6. New Discussion Items (moved to after 4. Reports)**

**a. Discussion: Sora app's Public Library CONNECT feature**

OverDrive's School Library App, Sora, has an opportunity to link students to their local public library. Connie Bowman and Daiva Madjar from OverDrive will provide a walkthrough of Public Library CONNECT.

C. Bowman showed how students are able to log into Wisconsin's Digital Library from Sora using a public library card. This feature is available free and without any action on the part of the public library and the users are subject to the circulation and checkout limits of Wisconsin's Digital Library. The public library will receive credit for any circulation of materials from Wisconsin's Digital Library.

The second layer of Public Library CONNECT program involves allowing students to check out materials from Wisconsin's Digital Library without using a public library card. This feature will require further discussion by the WPLC Steering Committee before it can be approved as there are many questions about which library will receive the circulations as well as how to protect the public library from any possible challenges to materials checked out on a student ID vs a public library card that requires a guardian's permission to acquire.

OverDrive representatives will confirm how the checkouts are credited to ensure the public systems are receiving proper credit for circulations. C. Bowman will share information on the program so the committee can share with member libraries. The

Steering Committee will take up a discussion about the second layer of the Public Library CONNECT feature at a future meeting.

**b. Discussion and Action: Steering Committee Representative for Collection Development Committee**

The Collection Development Committee's charge is to evaluate the composition of the collection purchased by the digital buying pool with particular attention on known concerns and potential additions to the collection. The committee is made up of three Board members, three Steering Committee members, and three Selection Committee members. Due to a retirement, we need to replace a Steering Committee member on the CDC. We are looking for a volunteer.

Michael DeVries (Beloit/ALS) has volunteered to serve on the committee.

**c. Informational: Pandemic Funding**

To help support Wisconsin libraries and their patrons during these unprecedented times, the Department of Public Instruction awarded the WPLC and Wisconsin's Digital Library \$250,000 in LSTA funds as part of an IMLS grant for digital content.

The Committee was given an update on this process and it was discussed how the funds will be spent.

Statistics were shared to show the dramatic increase in checkouts, new users and unique users of the WI Digital Library from February 2020 to March 2020:

- Checkouts increased 57% 351,610 to 550,905
- New Users increased 107% 5465 to 11,323 new users
- Unique Users increased 7% 94,372 to 101,341 users
- User Activity increased 90% in March over February.

The WPLC project managers along with OverDrive have worked to create a 3-part plan to allocate and spend the \$250,000 in LSTA funds as part of an IMLS grant for digital content. This includes approximately \$30,000 to additional simultaneous use titles, \$150,000 in Cost Per Circ titles to fill specific holds and \$120,000 for new titles. The allocations may change as OverDrive runs new holds reports. Thanks to WRLS for serving as the fiscal agent for the funds.

**7. Committee information sharing and questions**

J. MacPhail asked if any systems are purchasing videos. Advantage libraries are able to purchase streaming videos but Libby doesn't allow videos. A reminder that Advantage selection guidelines recommend that unique content is not purchased via Advantage accounts.

N. Fish is running the OverDrive Support Course next Monday for 22 participants!

A question was asked if magazines were offered via OverDrive in the past. It was clarified that they were, through OverDrive, but they had restrictions and required the Nook app. The new version of magazines offered by OverDrive do not have any caps and are accessible in Libby and the OverDrive app.

**8. Next Meeting Date: May 21, 2020 at 1:00 PM, online**

The Annual Membership meeting will be held online on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. Registration is required: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/upUqc--gqT0oXVh9jWYWmZ30d9TFsDQQ5Q>

**9. Adjournment**

*Motion:* To Adjourn

*Moved to approve:* J. MacPhail

*Second:* K. Rohde

*Results:* Motion passed

Meeting Adjourned at 11:32 a.m.