

Upper Peninsula Region of Library Cooperation, Inc.  
Automated Library Services 2013 (Symphony Users)  
Minutes of the Meeting of November 14, 2013

**CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of the ALS 2013 (Symphony Users) group was held at the Superiorland Library Cooperative in Marquette and via video conference at the Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie. Other participants dialed into the meeting via ReadyTalk audio conferencing service. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Attending:**

*Officers (at Marquette):*

Chair: Bruce MacDonald, Peter White Public Library

Treasurer: Suzanne Dees, Superiorland Library Cooperative

*Other ALS Representatives:*

At Superiorland Library Cooperative: Shawn Andary and Jean Montgomery,  
UPRLC/ALS

At Bayliss Public Library: Pam Flood, Bayliss Public Library

Dialing in via ReadyTalk: Jeanne Ludlow, Alpena Public Library; Beth Baker and Megan Buck, Dickinson County Library; Monique Ciofu, Escanaba Public Library; Deb Oyler, Houghton High School Library; Pat Cheski, Menominee County Library; Lisa Cromell, Munising School Public Library; and Marcia Mattfield, Negaunee Public Library

*Others Attending (at Marquette):*

Pamela Malmsten (Superiorland Library Cooperative), Recorder

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Suzanne Dees requested that two items, "Zinio Statistics" and "Mango Premiere Films", be added to the end of the agenda. The amended agenda was approved by consensus.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF August 8, 2013:** The minutes of August 8, 2013 were approved on a motion by Suzanne Dees, seconded by Pam Flood.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** ALS Treasurer Suzanne Dees presented the financial report.

Approval of the Bills for July, August, September, and October 2013, the Year to Date Expense and Revenue Reports as of September 30, 2013, and the Year to Date Expense and Revenue Reports as of October 31, 2013: Suzanne reported that the ALS Fund showed revenues over expenses of \$8,624 at the end of fiscal year 2012/2013 (September 30, 2013). The positive net income was added to the ALS fund balance to be used for system development. Cash disbursements for July, August, September, and October 2013 were reviewed; there were no questions on the bills. **Pat Cheski moved that the year to date expense and revenue reports as of 9/30/2013 and cash disbursements of \$23,415.43 for July, 2013; \$22,093.47 for August, 2013; and \$26,477.74 for September 2013 be approved. The motion was seconded by Jeanne Ludlow, approved unanimously, and carried. Monique Ciofu moved that the year-to-date expense and revenue reports as of October 31, 2013 and October cash disbursements of \$77,093.24 be approved. The motion was seconded by**

**Deb Oyler, unanimously approved, and carried.** Suzanne noted that the ALS budget will need to be revised at the next meeting because of upcoming increases in employee health insurance expenses.

#### **COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS:**

Update from UPRLC Long Range Planning Committee: UPRLC's current maintenance contract with SirsiDynix will expire on September 30, 2014. The Negotiations Committee has been working to develop a new maintenance contract that would commence on October 1, 2014. Suzanne Dees reported that the ALS Negotiations Committee submitted a proposal to SirsiDynix on October 4<sup>th</sup>. SirsiDynix recently returned a counteroffer in exchange for UPRLC signing a new 5-year maintenance contract. Although the Negotiations Committee had not yet met to discuss the SirsiDynix proposal, Suzanne outlined some of the discussion points. The Negotiations Committee had decided not to pursue SaaS (Software as a Solution) at this time because SaaS data security is currently inadequate. SirsiDynix agreed to allow UPRLC the option to renegotiate the SaaS option if data security improves in the future; UPRLC would reconsider SaaS in 2015 before purchasing new servers for the central site. The proposal includes prices for two new products: Enterprise and eResources Central. Enterprise is a discovery layer that would allow "fuzzy logic" and federated searching across databases such as MelCat. Shawn Andary noted that, like Enterprise, SirsiDynix's Blue Cloud PAC, which is included in our current maintenance contract, will feature fuzzy logic and will give the online catalog a new look. BlueCloud PAC will not, however, allow federated searching. EResources Central would integrate OverDrive digital books and two other databases into UPRLC's online catalog.

The Negotiations Committee has been analyzing long term costs for the different scenarios under consideration. Suzanne noted that estimates were based on yearly 3 percent member fee increases; she also looked at costs both with and without the purchase of new products. The committee would like to receive feedback from ALS members regarding the feasibility of a 3 percent annual fee increase and whether one or both new products should be purchased.

Suzanne invited other ALS members to join the Negotiations Committee; Jeanne Ludlow indicated that she would participate. At its next meeting, the committee will consider SirsiDynix's proposed contract language changes, further analyze projected costs, talk about new products, and develop a list of questions for SirsiDynix. The Negotiations Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 21 at 10 a.m. [Note: the meeting date was later changed to Friday, November 22 at 10 a.m.] Committee members can participate via ReadyTalk audio services. It was agreed that the Negotiations Committee would share its recommendations and SirsiDynix's responses with the ALS group at the next ALS meeting, which was scheduled for December 19 at 10 a.m. The ALS group would need to approve any contract recommended by the Negotiations Committee; the contract would then have to be signed by the UPRLC Contract Committee.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

eLibrary and StaffWeb Issues: Shawn Andary discussed problems that have occurred since the Service Pack 3 upgrade was applied last June. The eLibrary link to

the catalog page has been taking 15-plus seconds to connect; there have also been reports that StaffWeb connections and transactions have been very slow. Shawn said that SirsiDynix is working to resolve these issues.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Consortia SIG Meeting: Shawn reported on the 2013 SirsiDynix Consortia SIG meeting held at the Cleveland Public Library on November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. She said that attendees were able to meet with SirsiDynix representatives and had the opportunity to share concerns, make suggestions for enhancements, and ask questions. Product upgrades were discussed, and it was noted that the upgrade process was generally smooth, however, the Enterprise upgrade caused some users to lose their customized features. SirsiDynix reps responded that they are working on this issue. Consortia members indicated that they would like to control updates and have an advance copy of the Workflows client. The Strategic Partnership (SPP) program was also addressed. Many people felt that they were not really partners in the process since only trivial issues were brought to them; most of the important decisions had already been made. Users also said that they want to be alerted about potential upgrade glitches ahead of time, that reading level information should be incorporated into Enterprise, and that they would like to start seeing the actual release and availability of advertised new products. Another concern expressed was that SirsiDynix does not provide detailed price quotations, and that initial price quotes are unreasonably high. SirsiDynix reps responded they would follow up on that concern. Shawn added that the Thursday presentations were very valuable; in one session consortia members shared checklists that could be used by all.

Training Resources: Shawn has added three new RDA training links to the UPRLC Cataloging Information web page. The links include videos, Library of Congress training materials, and RDA Toolkit resources. The Cataloging Committee will be meeting soon and will be discussing cataloging changes and training.

Zinio Statistics: Suzanne reported that the addition of back issues to SLC's group digital magazine subscriptions has caused Zinio usage statistics to be skewed. Zinio is working on the problem; Suzanne said that library statistics will not be sent out until Zinio resolves this issue.

Mango Premiere Films: Mango Premiere is now available with SLC's group Mango language-learning subscription service. Mango Premiere teaches written text and speech using film subtitles in both languages. Suzanne has been working on setting up a ratings system for the films and she asked if anyone else would be willing to look at what she has done; Bruce MacDonald said he would provide feedback. Suzanne also said that she would ask Mango for a list of available film titles.

Other: UPRLC's Internet consortium contract with Merit Network will expire in June 2014. All participating libraries must develop written technology plans before the e-rate 470 form can be filed. The purpose of the 470 is to initiate the competitive bidding process that will lead to a new 5-year contract for services. Suzanne and Jean have researched each library's bandwidth and possible technology needs and have begun the process of contacting each library to work on the technology plans. Suzanne said she hopes to have all of the technology plans completed by mid-December.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting was scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m. on a motion by Monique Ciofu, seconded by Pam Flood.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Malmsten, Recorder