Metropolitan Library Service Agency
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, September 27th, 2019
MELSA
9:00AM – 11:00AM

Members Present:
Anoka: Maggie Snow Ramsey: Jill Boldenow
Carver: Heidi Hoks Saint Paul: Catherine Penkert
Dakota: Margaret Stone Scott: Jake Grussing
Hennepin: Janet Mills Washington: Amy Steftenagel

Staff Present: Kate Brown, Sarah Hawkins, Kathleen James, Mona Scott and Scott Vrieze

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chair Snow called the meeting to order at 9:02AM.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion by Grussing to approve the agenda. Second by Stone. Motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (August 9th, 2019)
Boldenow wanted to clarify that it was actually determined at the August meeting that Vrieze would draft a charge for a Collections Team. It was decided that the minutes were correct and Vrieze was to draft a charge.
Motion by Boldenow to approve the meeting minutes. Second by Grussing. Motion carried.

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
A. Notice of Availability of Phase Funds & Permitted Uses
Vrieze shared the spreadsheet of available Phase funds and reminded the Directors of the timeline for requesting them.

B. Lynda.com / LinkedIn Learning Migration & Privacy Concerns
   i. Teleconference with LinkedIn Learning Representative, Deanna Grady
All MELSA member libraries’ migration from Lynda.com to LinkedIn Learning has been indefinitely delayed due to privacy concerns among libraries all over North America. LinkedIn has been paused the transition until privacy and security concerns can be dealt with.

Mills shared the results of the HCL Lynda Survey with the group.
67% of users said HCL should keep LinkedIn Learning even with the new sign-up requirements.
18% said they would continue using the product but would create skeleton accounts for LinkedIn.
24% of respondents said HCL should drop the product but find a replacement online learning tool.
The Directors participated in a conference call with LinkedIn Learning representative Deanna Grady. The Directors expressed their concerns about patrons having to create LinkedIn accounts in order to access the online learning tools. Grady explained that the reason for the delay in transitioning from Lynda.com to LinkedIn Learning was take more time to find a better balance to securing their product and the needs of libraries across North America.

Grady asked the Directors if they would be willing to continue conversations with LinkedIn Learning’s technical people. The Directors all agreed to having more conversations with LinkedIn Learning.

Grady also asked the Directors what their ideal solution would look like. The all agreed that they want a simple sign in process that respects patrons’ privacy.

**C. Collection Development Team Draft Charge**

The Directors discussed Vrieze’s draft of the team charge. Boldenow asked for more clarity in the charge and wanted the priorities identified. There was a lot of discussion on whether the group could function as an interest group and discuss equity when developing collections or if the group should function as a team and work on ebook collection development.

The Directors will send Vrieze names of member library staff that can help refine the charge to the possible team/interest group.

**D. Discussion: Ebook Pricing concerns**

1. **Draft version of MELSA Director letter**
2. **Possible Next Steps**

A couple versions of the letter to the Star Tribune regarding the MacMillan embargo were reviewed. After some discussion it was decided that Boldenow and Stone would stay after the meeting to finalize the letter and send it to Vrieze who would then submit to the Star Tribune. Sally Lederer will release a press release once the letter is published and Vrieze will be named as the contact.

Ways of working with publishers who are and are not library friendly will be added to the next agenda.

**E. City and County Government Relations Platforms and Library Advocacy**

Boldenow and Stone are currently working with their respective counties on getting increased Regional Library Basic System Support funding on their platforms.

Hawkins will share the Minnesota Library Association’s language with the Directors once the MLA platform has been decided. There is currently a $9 million library construction grant (HF 2529 / SF 2725) on the floor and last sessions bills (HF 1282 / SF 1704) for an increase in RLBSS funding are still live.
V. Reports
A. Staff Reports
Hawkins reported on the Minnesota Author Project. The winners of annual Minnesota Author Project were announced at the MLA Annual Conference Award Ceremony.

- Adult Fiction *Matka* by Sarah Hanley
- Young Adult Fiction *The Queen of Steel and Fire* by Steve South

MELSA member libraries are encouraged to purchase print copies and to book author visits/panels of finalists/winners allowing the authors to promote their books.

VI. ADJOURN
Motion to adjourn by Boldenow.
Second by Hoks.
Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 11:25AM