

E-Content Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

5/31/13 1:30 p.m.

Attendance: J. Benedetti (UHLS); R.Naylor (COLN); J. Wines (ALTM);

1. The minutes from the April 23 E-Content meeting were approved.
2. Brief discussion about Zinio. J. Benedetti said that a rep is coming on June 4th to show us Zinio. We were quoted \$40,000 for System-wide access, which is out of our price range. Perhaps they can give us a discounted price if 4 or 5 of our libraries sign up.
3. Mary Fellows has done a great deal of research on downloadable books for children and recommends Tumblebooks. All of the content is web-based although apps are currently under development. The group recommends purchase. Moved, seconded, passed.
4. J. Wines and R. Naylor want to find out OverDrive's definition of a consortium. New York Public has 87 branches serving 3.5 million, yet they are considered one library. This is important in order to determine our access to advantage titles. J. Benedetti will followup. There is a new position at OverDrive – a person who will visit each library and find out their concerns. We are supposed to get a visit in June. R. Naylor suggests this person visit one of our small libraries to show how advantage-only titles hurt the System.
5. J. Benedetti reported that 160 people have checked out “Four Corners of the Sky” – OverDrive's promotional “Big Read” book. R. Naylor noted that just prominent placement of a title will increase checkouts. As a group, we should select quality books that have a fair price and reflect the one book/one user model. As a System, we can promote these “librarian choices” by placing these books prominently on our digital book website. J. Benedetti said this should be easy, and we could call them “librarian picks”. R. Naylor maintained that until the “Big Six” publishers change their policies, librarians should spend time promoting lesser known, but excellent books that reflect the proclamation issued by NYLA. Namely:

NYLA COUNCIL PASSES EBOOK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, school and public libraries have been legally established for many years in the United States to support

our citizens' right to read, regardless of socioeconomic background, to preserve and disseminate information, and to educate our citizenry; and

WHEREAS, librarians have a professional responsibility to provide a broad range of reading materials for all of our citizens and to support reader's rights; and

WHEREAS, librarians support publisher and writer profits and fair prices during these times of transition, be it

RESOLVED, that the New York Library Association proclaims that, the one book one reader model should continue to be available for all ebooks, both print and audio, copyrighted in the United States; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all ebooks, print and audio, should be available for no more than their retail price to all public and school libraries.

Moved, and seconded, passed.

6. J. Benedetti described OverDrive's latest promotion with the "carrot" of a Media Station which the System could share. J. Wines will announce this at Directors Association to remind people to purchase content. J. Benedetti will find out how much such a media station would cost.
7. 3: 55 pm meeting adjourned.