

Minutes for E-Content Committee, May 6, 2015

Meeting started at 3 PM.

Attending: Amy Peker, Judith Wines, Jane Chirgwin, Jo-Ann Benedetti, Lenny Zapala, Richard Naylor, Deanna Dicarolo, Matt Graff, Laurenne Teachout

Minutes reviewed and approved.

Collection Analysis results:

No clear conclusion about trends, beyond the very low use of children before grade four. What did become clear was that weeding was necessary for the collection. Items that had out-of-date information and/or poor formats will be weeded out by Jo-Ann this month. Multiple copies of the same item do not create “clutter,” but poor items that make the collection look bad do.

Collection guidelines were rewritten to make them more universal for the system, but all recommendations for practices used by central library digital purchasing will be maintained on its own document.

Linear narrative nonfiction is still preferable to books that are used for piecemeal information. Cookbooks and craft books are mostly likely of the non-linear books to circulate, but we also have our digital magazines to fill that need.

A deeper evaluation by individual examples might give us a better idea of what to recommend. Instead of a subject evaluation, maybe we should look at format or type of item.

Digipalooza:

This conference is offered every other year, in Cleveland Ohio, August 5-7. Jo-Ann feels strongly that UHLS should be represented, as we are important front-runners for Overdrive and e-books in libraries.

Overdrive news:

Overdrive now has “Overdrive Listen” which allows users to listen to audiobooks without downloading. This feature will be on all our already purchased audio titles as long as the publisher allows it.

Overdrive gave us a free season of Sesame Street (season 40).

WMA and WMV items that have no other format will be taken out of our database permanently on May 19th. Most items have been converted to other formats. There is no clear estimate of these “orphans”, but we will be compensated by receiving .50 cents credit per checkout during a specified time. If the deleted item becomes available in a different audio format, it will be returned to our database at no cost.

Videos- we discussed whether we should discontinue purchasing videos. We are hoping for eventual compatibility with streaming devices such as Roku and Playstation. Richard suggested using Rotten Tomatoes to help in making purchase decisions on unknown films.

Interim Planning:

Jo-Ann held a successful workshop on purchasing e-content, and there were requests for more classes. She will give the committee her materials from the workshop.

Jo-Ann will be retiring at the end of May, and does not have a replacement. Tim Burke will decide who will have access to administration of Overdrive, he will be the main contact person for the interim. The committee expressed concern about losing vital knowledge from Jo-Ann, who has been running our digital collection since inception. She will not be able to train her successor, so we suggest she pass on notes and training to the committee to cover the transition and training of the new person. Judith arranged to meet and learn how to create the library purchases spreadsheet. Jo-Ann will be hard to replace, and we appreciate all her hard work.

Motion to adjourn by Judith, seconded by Lenny, meeting adjourned 4:30 PM. <>