

E-Content Meeting August 16, 2016 3:00 PM

Attending: Deanna Dicarolo UHLS, Jane Chirgwin RENS, Geoff Kirkpatrick, BETH, Sarah Clark APLM, Judith Wines RCSC, and Melissa Tacke, CAST.

Minutes approved.

Overdrive/Nook magazines dissolving partnership:

Nook is dissolving its partnership with Overdrive, which means that our Nook magazine service will end this January 2017. Overdrive is developing an alternative, but has no firm release date. They will offer us a credit of \$1,000 towards our platform fee.

The committee suggests this credit be used for e-book upkeep (holds, metered access).

Should we replace the service right away, or wait for Overdrive? At this time, we are aware of two other digital magazine services, Flipster and Zinio. Deanna researched the pricing for Flipster and compared it to what we have currently. For half the magazines we currently have (Flipster has different titles than Overdrive), it would cost \$33,883. This does not include a separate \$13,015 for a Consumer Reports database. Bethlehem uses Flipster for their patrons, and Geoff reports that they are satisfied with the product. He also points out we should consider cost per circulation and the lack of a platform fee- our magazines circulated 35,000 times last year.

We do not have the pricing for Zinio, a product from Recorded Books. Albany Public Library has used this product, and Sarah liked it. Deanna will research pricing.

The committee agrees that if our magazine services lapse or change, we need to communicate this to our patrons, as it has become an expected service.

DLD and CLAC's budget:

The DLD noticed the subscription to Bookflix in the Central Library budget. They stated that central library funds are to be used for adult nonfiction content only. The format was not an issue, just the content.

It is difficult to bring across the message that we have to buy extra copies or re-buy the same item when the license has expired due to demand, especially with small libraries that typically only buy one copy of an item for their own physical collection. This process is also not "automatic," it takes time and thought. The cost of this upkeep is estimated to be \$70,000 this year.

One suggestion is to create our own central fund for the e-book collection, for experienced purchasers to draw from. Libraries are invoiced and send in a contribution based on their size and usage. The fund would be used for maintenance of the collection. Libraries would still be able to purchase new content separately, if they wished, or buy titles requested by their own patrons.

Databases:

Being that databases are electronic content, and we are the e-content committee, we ask the Directors Association to add “database selection recommendations” as part of the charge of this committee. This used to be part of the Adult Services Advisory Council’s charge, but the group did not meet between 2012 and 2015, and its focus has now been changed to wider discussions of services to adults in our communities. The e-Content Advisory Committee has taken on the role of deeper analysis of digital content platforms. We will continue to seek input from ASAC and YSAC, like we did for OverDrive and Tumblebooks/BookFlix.

Advantage Titles:

A new feature is available for Advantage users (the exclusive license for one library).—If the libraries who have Advantage titles go in and select the option, titles more than a year old will change over to regular Overdrive borrowing policies. There is no cost involved. Three libraries have Advantage titles.

Move to Adjourn 4 PM.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday September 28th at 3 PM