

eContent Advisory Committee Meeting | September 13th, 2016 3:30 PM

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

Minutes approved.

Comparison of Magazine Services

The committee reviewed Flipster and Zinio and discussed the pricing, services and ease of use of each platform. Bethlehem Public Library is currently using Flipster and is satisfied with their service. Albany previously used Zinio.

Zinio has a \$12,500 per year platform fee. The fee plus 80 titles would cost approximately \$19,000.

Flipster has no platform fee, but prices of individual subscriptions are higher. 25 titles would be \$19,633.

Flipster is designed to be accessed through Wi-Fi, with an option to download issues. Some issues with limited simultaneous use expire: 2 days for a weekly magazine; 7 days for a monthly magazine. Jane said that was a different approach than Overdrive's system, where patrons can keep limited title's issues on their Nook app indefinitely. The committee also noted that either platform was not visible on Encore or Overdrive, eliminating discovery from those points. The committee discussed titles, going from a worksheet compiled by Deanna that showed the highest circulating titles from Overdrive. Titles with very similar subjects and audiences were pared down.

The committee recommends that our new digital magazine platform should be Flipster, because of familiarity, ease of use and title selection. The committee will develop a list of titles for suggested purchase to give to the Central Library Advisory Committee, with a \$45,000 budget goal.

Advantage Titles

At the last meeting, Deanna explained that Advantage titles can be "aged out" to become system-wide titles after a year's use. There are currently no Advantage titles that are younger than that. The four involved libraries are being informed how to opt in and make all eligible Advantage titles part of the general collection.

Patron Requests

The committee agreed to change the recommendation of purchasing patron-requested Overdrive titles from 3 every 30 days to 5 every 30 days.

Central Library Fund Gap

An approximately \$90,000 gap was created with the compliance with how the Central Library funds can be used. This consists of the BookFlix subscription and the maintenance of the fiction digital collection. Holds, metered access and requests are mainly fiction. Libraries that have a high circulation of digital content may consider changing their materials budget to support that

part of their collection. The Central Library funds can still be used for non-fiction, so libraries can opt to place desired nonfiction titles into the shared nonfiction cart on Overdrive Marketplace instead of utilizing their own funds.

One option to explore is adding ebook collection maintenance into the UHLS contract fees. Judith will discuss this with the Director's Association at their next meeting.

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