Central New York Library Resources Council

Library Resources and Services Committee

October 22, 2012

2:00 p.m.

**Present:** Beverly Choltco-Devlin (Mid-York Library System), Chair, DeAnn Buss (Syracuse University), Peg Elliott (OCPL), Christine Kucharski (SUNY Upstate), Deb Lewis (OCPL), Mary Panek (Jamesville DeWitt High School), Valerie Prescott (HCCC), Steve Weiter (SUNY ESF), Déirdre Joyce (Asst. Director, CLRC), Debby Emerson (CLRC)

Bev Choltco-Devlin called meeting to order at 2:05.

Deb Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 19, 2012 meeting as corrected, (S/Approved unanimously).

**Action Items:** Mid-York will commit to trying to promote NewsBank on its website over the next three months, to see if usage can be increased.

CLRC will draft a survey to determine participants’ tolerance level for a price increase. Prior to sending the survey to participants, it will be sent out to the committee for review.

CLRC will plan a workshop on marketing electronic resources and databases.

Bev, Peg Elliott and Deb Lewis will meet in person or via conference call to discuss the toolkit and tutorials.

**Agenda Items:**

1. **NewsBank subscription for year starting August 2013.**

Debby sent out use statistics for the past nine months. There are two parts – newspapers and obituaries. OCPL accounts for the majority of the searches. We just renewed the subscription which runs through July 2013; we are planning ahead. NewsBank cost about $69,000 and CLRC charged back about $11,000 to member libraries, making the cost to CLRC about $58,000. That was a reduced rate, taking into account that OCPL did not participate in this year’s subscription. Next year, if OCPL comes back into our subscription, the price will go back up to about $77,000-$80,000. Valerie said although her library does not have high use statistics, it is their only access to local newspapers and thus is an important resource for them. Mid-York analyzes their use on a per-item transaction cost. Bev is concerned that we are spending a lot of money for the subscription and it is benefitting only a few member libraries. It is a difficult balancing act. We do not pay separately for the obits, it is part of our quote. Debby said she has never asked what the cost would be without the obits. Usage is pretty evenly divided between the newspapers and the obits. Debby would like a decision by the next meeting, in order to plan for the budget. There was a suggestion that we lower the subsidy, asking subscribers to pay a higher portion of the cost. We could do a survey to see how much subscribers might be willing to pay. Offer a variety of possible percentage increases. Present background information also – you have used NewsBank this much, etc.

Steve Weiter asked what we would do with the money if we did not purchase NewsBank. There could be more money going to member grants and more to support the Council’s digitization projects.

Both the Syracuse newspaper and the Utica Observer-Dispatch are exclusive to NewsBank; the content cannot be obtained elsewhere. The only other option is microfilm, and students do not want to use microfilm. The Utica paper has offered a deal to Mid-York, but it is available from within the library only, no remote access.

The cost of the CLRC NewsBank subscription works out to about $1.00 per search, which is quite reasonable. Libraries were billed the same amount as in the previous year, which is not exactly equitable as libraries’ use patterns have changed.

Marketing of electronic resources is key (not just for NewsBank) and could be greatly improved. What can we do to help market all our databases properly? Could we do a marketing blitz over the next few months? Debby prepares the budget in February/March.

There was a suggestion that CLRC conduct a workshop on how to market databases (not just NewsBank, but all of our purchased databases).

1. **RBDB Member Grants**

Debby sent out the link for last year’s guidelines and asked the committee to review them. At its previous meeting the group agreed to change the timing for the RBDB process but dates were not firmed up. The RBDB program runs on the calendar year rather than the Council’s July – June fiscal year. Traditionally, RBDB funding is received very late in the year – 2011 RBDB funding was received in March, 2012. It does not make sense to ask people to apply for funding so far in advance. The former timing of our application process was difficult for member academic libraries, as they needed to complete their applications during the busiest time of the fall semester. By pushing the whole process a bit later, we give academic libraries more time. Due date could be mid-January, 2013. The group agreed on a due date of Friday, January 18.

Last year we had an independent jury review the committee’s recommendations for funding. Some of the committee members represent institutions that were applying for funding, and felt more comfortable with the external review process in place. Bev suggested that we continue with the external review panel, and the committee agreed.

LRS would meet late January to review applications. The external review panel would look at the applications in February, and would have a recommendation ready for the March meeting of the CLRC Board of Trustees.

The committee would like to see as much lead time as possible. There were no major edits proposed to the guidelines. Committee members were asked to review the guidelines over the next week to make sure there are no further changes needed. This review should be completed by November 2. Debby will make the obvious edits, such as dates and reference to the Plan of Service. CLRC can get the guidelines and new forms posted by the week starting November 12.

1. **WorldCat Tutorial**

During the last meeting, Bev volunteered to create an online tutorial. Deb and Holly from OCPL volunteered to assist. They have not had time to work on this yet. There may be tutorials or lesson plans that already exist, and Deb agreed to research those. A toolkit could include online tutorials and a synchronous training session as well.

1. **Library Sharing**

SUNY ESF – Finishing up search for library system administrator and another part-time position. Transitioning to move materials away from SU’s online catalog.

Upstate Medical University – new Clinical Reference Librarian and new Family Resource Manager at the Family Resource Center. Bev asked about the training provided by NN/LM in Consumer Health Librarianship. Could we offer the series of classes again? CLRC will look into this. JoAnn Benedetti (Albany area) did the training previously.

Syracuse University – October is a very busy month; moved ILS to a virtual environment. Review team came to study library programs and services, and library is awaiting their report. High density storage facility opens next week.

Herkimer Community College – library will close Sunday evenings; cannot get staff to work for what they can pay.

OCPL – Central Library redesign continues. $2,000,000 grant from state, and additional bond will be requested from county. They have received RBDB funding from CLRC. Welcoming new director at Skaneateles with a reception on Thursday. Will be purchasing two stand-alone book and media dispensers, one for WCNY lobby and one for Great Northern Mall. There are only four of these in the U.S. that both vend things out and accept returns. Based on RFID technology. Mundy Library re-design is underway. A couple members have subscribed to 3M Cloud Library for e-books (Fayetteville and Liverpool). They are looking for a replacement for CLIO, never quite got it implemented. Robert Freeman lecture was wonderful; he talked about open meeting laws and FOIL.

Jamesville-DeWitt High School – Mary would be interested in any toolkit we could come up with for marketing databases.

CLRC – Syracuse University is holding a 2-day Zotero workshop and CLRC has offered a scholarship to attend this. The cost is $350 so this is a great value. The closing for the contest is Thursday, October 25. Lynda.com is up and running, and several people have already contacted CLRC for activation codes. We are keeping statistics on use and will be able to tell each member library how much they are using it. CLRC has 15 licenses that rotate on a 2-week or one-month basis. Lynda.com is a professional development tool and the classes can be used to fulfill the CE requirements for public and school librarians. There are 1400 different classes available.

Mid-York Library System – there was a case in Sacramento where a visually-impaired patron objected that the library was lending out Nooks but the Nooks did not have the capacity to do voice reading with an audible navigation system. This is something to be aware of for libraries that are lending out devices. Is the lending of devices subject to ADA guidelines? People with visual impairments should be afforded the same experience that is available to sighted persons. Apparently iPads are currently the only devices with these capabilities. This could be a possible forum topic for CLRC.

OCPL - One good way to promote databases is to really promote 24/7 chat service. We can lead patrons to the databases. Many times patrons don’t know how to use the library. They don’t know what a database is. It is often helpful to direct patrons to their own library!

**NEXT MEETING: Will be determined by Doodle poll, last week of January 2013. Mary Panek asked if meetings could be scheduled at 3:00 p.m. to better accommodate the school library schedule. The committee agreed.**

Deb Lewis made a motion to adjourn at 3:40 p.m. (S/Approved unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Emerson, Executive Director, CLRC