

# MeLCat Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 4

1:00pm - 3:00pm

MCLS Boardroom

Members present: 17 + 1 conference caller.

1) Welcome

2) Minute taker

Mike Burgmeier volunteered.

3) Corrections/changes to last meeting minutes?

None.

4) Public Library Funding in Michigan [presented by Kathy Webb, Library of Michigan]

Presented fiscal year numbers for 2014, ~\$24 million. Explained a lot of the complexities of where this money comes from and how it is distributed. Penal fines (traffic tickets, etc.) one such complication. Local ordinances allow municipalities to divert some of this money to other things. Only payout totals are reported, not received totals. Libraries could file FOIA requests to get actual numbers but wouldn't be politically wise. Discussed statewide funding, somewhere around 8.8 million for all libraries. Again, the complexities of how this money is distributed was discussed (must have 3/10 of a mil in local support/funding, etc.). Fines & statewide funding make up, on average, only 10% of library funding. There are many ways to start a library and just as many ways to fund them. The library environment is very complicated and there is a great deal of disparity. This explains, in part, why there are many different policies regarding lending & fees across libraries in the state.

5) Catalog policy changes: ebooks

MeLCat would like to eliminate records for resources that are only licensed locally, ebooks, streaming media and others. The problem is that MeLCat has ebook holdings attached to print records and vice versa. Cleanup will be difficult and will take a while to complete. MeLCat would like to encourage separate records for separate formats. There was agreement to move forward with these recommended policy changes.

6) Resource sharing policy changes

Reviewed proposed changes to the Resource Sharing Policies discussed at the last meeting (getting libraries to abide by the MeLCat policies and procedures). MeLCat would also like to codify how user input and feedback is handled. It was suggested that

we allow for 3 weeks for comments. There was agreement to move forward with the proposed changes.

#### Visiting Patrons & fees

Committee agrees this isn't the main thing keeping libraries from participating in the MeLCat visiting patron program. Seems to be functionality issues rather than policy issues. Committee agreed to not pursue this issue any further at this time.

#### 7) RDA and MeLCat

Catalog policies were written for AACR2 and need to be updated. The implementation of RDA has created a number of problems (for example, some fields (245h) [gmd] are important to MeLCat but are not required in RDA). It is nearly impossible to write a set of rules for libraries and seems to make more sense to list these requirements in a separate document outside of the policies. The committee agreed to the recommended changes.

The committee also discussed a variety of other changes to the Catalog Policies. The committee was in agreement to forward the recommended changes.

Catalogue Issue 4: Agreement. [remove 4.4.1; change 4.4.2 to general language and link to external document]

Catalogue Issue 5: Agreement. [remove 7.1.2]

Catalogue Issue 6: Agreement. [remove 7.2.1]

Catalogue Issue 7: Agreement. [reword 7.4.3 to talk about MeLCat resource sharing privileges]

Catalogue Issue 8: Agreement. [reword to provide explicit time frame]

All of the recommended policy changes agreed upon today will be sent to MeLCat libraries for input and comments.

#### 8) Upcoming plans [MeLCat screens, Users Day, etc. sort of stuff]

Planning to schedule regional MeLCat meetings rather than one annual meeting this year. MCLS is planning on doing the same so they will combine/work together. Tentatively looking at July with meetings to take place at approximately 8-10 locations.

Debbi solicited feedback on the new MeLCat interface, indicating that it has not been getting as much use as anticipated. A number of people pointed out that certain tasks can only be performed in the classic version (like left-anchored title searches). Others pointed out that MeLCat is not their main discovery layer and so they don't look to MeLCat to fill that purpose.

MeLCat periodically conducts cancellation studies, trying to identify why some libraries

are not meeting a minimum level of lending (mapping issues, staffing, fragile materials, etc.). They are preparing to conduct another such study and will be contacting libraries that appear to be performing below the minimum level. Debbi indicated that we have an 89% fill rate overall!

There have been both advances and setbacks regarding the implementation of ArticleReach. Staff have been working very hard to get it up and running. They are getting close but Debbi is reluctant to give a tentative date since a number of fixes must come from Innovative (III). Stay tuned for further announcements.

#### 9) Next meeting

Will send out a doodle poll for scheduling a summer meeting.