

April 18, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Hanford Branch Library

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

B. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present: Nathan Vosburg (Coalinga-Huron), Alyssa Furin (Fresno), Fahra Daredia (Kern), Ashley Nuhfer (Kings), Alma Madrigal-Ward (Madera), Yer Vang (Tulare County), Heidi Clark (Tulare Public)

Members Absent: Matt Johnson (Mariposa), Smruti Deshpande (Merced)

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Boyer proposed reversing the order of Discussion Items F1 and F2. The modified agenda was adopted.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Motion: Madrigal-Ward (Madera) Second: Nuhfer (Kings) The minutes were unanimously approved.

F. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. DISCUSSION: cloudLibrary and NewsStand/Streaming Video Trial

Furin (Fresno) shared that she has accepted a promotion and will be leaving ERC. She will continue to select adult non-fiction titles for cloudLibrary until the end of this fiscal year. We will need a new selector for adult non-fiction titles during the next fiscal year. Madrigal-Ward (Madera) is willing to help with selection. Boyer will check with all existing selectors once purchases are complete for the current year to confirm areas of selection.

Members reviewed trial access to cloudLibrary's digital movie and magazine platforms. Digital and Streaming Video: Clark reported that Tulare Public is receiving a lot of patron questions about streaming video and would like to see if system will offer something for all libraries. Kings also receives patron requests for streaming video and would be interested in offering a resource. Coalinga and Madera only offer physical media/DVDs. Some locations in Madera County have unreliable internet connections and streaming video may not be a good option in those areas. Libraries with movies through hoopla see good usage but usually hit monthly limits. Fresno offers Kanopy and sees consistent patron usage. Furin asked how often the video content in cloudLibrary's collection is updated. Boyer will follow up with representative. NewsStand/Magazines: Member libraries offer a range of magazine options. Some are only offering digital copies. Some still only have physical copies but are interested in digital. Some offer both. Libby and Flipster are the most common sources for digital magazines. Furin suggested the title list in cloudLibrary's NewsStand seemed comparable to Libby's selections and requested a full title list from the vendor. Boyer will follow up.

2. DISCUSSION: Determine priorities for target resource categories

Boyer informed the committee that the system could take a multi-year approach to expanding resources that are offered to all member libraries. Committee members considered the categories that have been identified as priorities. The committee wants to keep resources that we currently offer: online courses and career prep, education and general research, automotive repair, and ebooks/audiobooks. Streaming video, digital/streaming audio, and digital magazines should all be considered for additional resources. Without clear costs and budget amounts, the committee cannot easily recommend one specific area or resource. Resources for book recommendations, digital newspapers, and language learning are already offered within the system; those are lower priorities. Better marketing of and tutorials for the resources we offer is a priority, but could be addressed later, especially if new resources are added.

3. DISCUSSION: Support and Resources for ERC members

Boyer advised committee members that the system office is planning to overhaul the Source, the systemwide intranet, by recreating the site in SharePoint. Members were asked how they used the intranet and what information they would like to see available. Members requested a more robust section for the committee, including contact information for members, meeting schedules, agendas and minutes, Brown Act information, and statements of mission, purpose, and goals. Additional pages on resources were requested, including a list of systemwide resources, usage statistics for systemwide resources, links to each member library's databases page(s), links to marketing resources from vendors, and lists of resources with trial access. Members also suggested it would be helpful if SharePoint could send reminders when content was added or updated.

G. STATUS UPDATE ON SYSTEM RESOURCES

None

H. CALENDAR ITEMS

The next meeting will tentatively be held on June 20, 2024 on Microsoft Teams. The August meeting will be at the Visalia library.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Coalinga library will be remodeled, and the genealogy section will be removed. Tulare Public hosted the Tulare Garden Festival and had more than 300 visitors. Kern County hosted eclipse viewing events and distributed eclipse glasses to attendees.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.