

MontanaLibrary2Go Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 6, 2010
Parmly Billings Library, Billings, MT

Introductions

Budget

Sarah announced that invoices are coming for FY11 soon; payments won't be due until July or August

- The cost formula is still the same – tiers are based on the number of patron records in your system
- Any proposed changes to the cost formula should be discussed immediately; no changes were proposed
- Sarah is not aware of projected increases from Overdrive; she notes that the hosting fee has not been increased for two years. If there were to be an increase, Sarah doesn't anticipate any increase would go out to libraries this year
- There should be \$75,600 for next year for new content/holds/standing orders

The current balance as of the meeting in the group account was \$32,236

- The selection team typical monthly budget includes:
 - \$4000 on new titles
 - \$2000 for added copies
 - \$500-600 on standing orders
- The expected balance at the end of the current fiscal year is \$19,236; this will be rolled over to help cover next year's costs.

In FY11

- Overdrive's hosting fee of \$12,000 will be paid by MSL through LSTA funding
- The cost of MARC records is covered by \$2000 in LSTA funds for as long as it lasts
- Funds were made available for new library participation fees:
 - There is a one-time fee for joining; \$6000 in LSTA funds is allotted for this
 - This should allow 4 libraries to come on board
 - There is still \$6400 on account with Overdrive which would cover 4 libraries
 - The cooperative is growing much more slowly; primarily small public libraries

The amount that has gone into growing collection since inception: \$172,509 as of May 10

Total number of items in collection: 3696

The Max Access titles (the Always Available section) costs \$3750 per year for 50 total titles.

There are currently 2 Max Access subscriptions of 25 titles each, one comes up for renewal in October and the other in April.

There was a discussion of Max Access

- Max Access costs \$3750 per year
This means that the titles cost us \$75 each; the question came up whether these items are paying for themselves? Susie noted that the titles are not always the hot sellers, but there are some that are getting some pretty high usage. Others noted that always having something for people to check out helps as a marketing tool

New content is budgeted at a rate of \$4000 per month

- The selection team breaks out this amount based on different areas of the collection.
- The current formula has been \$1700 for fiction, \$1100 for nonfiction, \$450 for young adult books and \$750 for juvenile books.
- The selection team proposes to adjust this based on usage to \$2400 for fiction, \$700 for nonfiction, \$500 for YA and \$400 for juvenile
- \$500 per month is allotted to 2 standing orders for top new releases
- \$3000 per month will be set aside for holds – the criteria are that there are more than 5 holds per copy, with max amount spent per month
 - This is usually spent in the first week of the month
 - For some items, Overdrive has lost the rights and we can't get another copy
 - The max number of added copies is 10 – our parameter
 - The holds set up is not limited to fiction; it affects all genres and types
 - It is recommended to increase from \$2000 for last year to \$3000 for fy11
 - There was a consensus on approving changing amounts for next year for selection amounts and hold amounts

Members in attendance expressed appreciation for the work of the selection team and gave a round of applause.

Requests

The selection team reminded everyone that requests are welcomed – please send them; selectors will try to order if available.

Format

Selectors are seeing some additional mp3 formats over when we started. Selectors try to get mp3 in preference to wma where available, but note that Mac users are not getting equal treatment.

Donations

Friends groups or libraries can donate additional funds for purchase of additional content. They may designate a collection such as adult fiction. Contact Sarah, and MSL will invoice for the amount to be donated.

Other Discussion

Are we stuck with Overdrive? Would it be viable to make a comparison to Ingram's program? It was noted that all the money we have invested in Overdrive in terms of the collection would be lost if we no longer maintain the hosting fee.

Ideas for consideration

1. The current collection setup is to select only unabridged titles; the group has received a request to consider abridged for titles in foreign languages – The selectors recommend no changes to this policy; the rest of the group concurred
2. Adding new format – e-books; Missoula has offered to spend \$5000 on a start up collection. Overdrive provided a test site, but there has not been much time to test. The e-books are supposed to work with the Sony Reader and Barnes & Noble's Nook and computers. Testers found the Adobe-intensive rights management to be cumbersome.

Overdrive thinks that DRM free content is coming, but no dates as yet. The selection team recommendation is to move forward with the proviso that the test should not include using budgeted funds while testing the collection. The cooperative would also need to come up with a new collection development policy. The group was generally favorable, and representatives of other libraries expressed a willingness to supplement Missoula's funding offer (Great Falls, Parky Billings, Lincoln County, North Valley, Dillon). The group would like to have a committee test and make a recommendation before end of June to implement in August. We are on board with the idea of e-books, but need to get Overdrive in webinar with test group before moving ahead.

3. Increasing loan periods and number of check-outs. A general discussion of issues with loan periods, check-outs and holds took place. The consensus was not to make changes at this time. It was felt that increasing item limits would add pressure to holds; more items out mean that more are unavailable. We were encouraged to keep pressuring Overdrive to add an optional 3 day limit and the ability to return items early

PLA visit with Overdrive

Karla reported on visiting with Simon from Overdrive at PLA:

- Open e-books is a vision but there is no date of expected availability
- DRM-free will be compatible with most readers when it comes
- Initial publishers in DRM-free testing are not bestseller publishers
- Library Bin feature – features e-books and audiobooks from top publishers; allows patron not to wait and to purchase for personal collection; portion of sale goes to cooperative for future purchases
- There will soon be a report dashboard; not as detailed but easier to see; can still get detailed reports in Content Reserve

Digipalooza conference

Sarah suggested that the cooperative consider sending someone next year in July 2011.

Future growth

We continue to see demand, but our budget is not growing.

There are 40-some libraries in the cooperative; any new members will likely be small with small budget level.

Suggestions:

- Start-up costs might include an amount to contribute to new content
- Change the cost formula to increase cost levels or use a different kind of cost formula to reflect collection budgets and usage parameters rather than patron counts
- Members should note that this is part of our collections, and not an add-on
- If we expand, do we add just from Overdrive, or from Recorded Books or Ingram, or other e-books, or Freegal
- We may wish to consider building in a 2% annual increase to allow for budget increases.