![PrairieCat logo]

Resource Sharing Committee
Minutes
Wednesday, July 27th, 2022, 1:00-2:00 pm

In person at Senica's Oak Ridge Golf Club, 658 US-6, Lasalle, IL 61301 and online via Zoom

Please visit L2 for in person registration or go to:

https://librarylearning.org/event/15012/register

or online at:

https://railslibraries.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMsd-mprT0vHdKO_xN2Eq_TWSNCtyVeQi0W

PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public will be able to chat or speak during the virtual Zoom meeting during the public comment. Public comments may be submitted via email to Carolyn.Coulter@railslibraries.info at least two hours before the meeting.

1. Call to order, welcome and introductions
   Present in Lasalle: Chelsey DeSplinter (PrairieCat), Carolyn Coulter (PrairieCat), Elizabeth Smith (PrairieCat), Beth Ryan (Chair-JO), Pennie Miller (PP), Melissa Landis (PrairieCat)

   Present via Zoom: Debbie Griggs (TC), Dana Fine (PR), Kim Brozovich (RP), Nicole Johnson (LP), Krystal Waugamon (PT), Rici Dale (RL), Lynne Noffke (LI),

   Absent: Magda Bonny (PrairieCat), John Slanicky (PrairieCat)

   Ryan (Chair-JO) called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. Introduction of Visitors and Public Comments
   Nicole Johnson from North Suburban Public Library and Krystal Waugamon (PT) from Pecatonica Public Library introduced themselves.

3. Review agenda for additions/changes
   Coulter (PrairieCat) added auto renewals as an initial discussion after the approval of minutes.

4. Approval, minutes from 4/27/2022 and 5/19/2022
   Motion #1: Miller (PP) moved and Dale (RL) seconded <u>to approve the April 27, 2022 minutes and the May 19, 2021 minutes as presented.</u>
   There was no discussion on the motion. Motion carries by roll call.

   Ayes: 5
   Nays: 0
   Abstentions: 2
   Discussion:

5. Discussion, Auto Renewals
   Coulter (PrairieCat) explained she added auto renewals as a discussion due to

comments on the Strategic Plan Survey. Several people indicated they would be interested in PrairieCat looking into auto renewals. There are some complexities with this, but auto renewals are offered by other LLSAPs in Illinois. Coulter asked Landis (PrairieCat) to give us her thoughts on auto renewals.

Landis said that auto renewals would require rewriting a library's loan rules because it affects the notices. It is her understanding that it is something that takes quite a bit of time testing because it needs to be test very, very thoroughly to make sure the notices come out correctly and the correct items are auto renewed. A minor concern is that it can affect a library's statistics. Once auto renewals are implemented, most libraries report a drop in their statistics. Landis is curious to know how many libraries are interested in auto renewals. Implementing auto renewals usually leads to fine free and more PrairieCat libraries are fine free vs auto renewals. Those libraries who are fine free, would they be interested in auto renewals?

Miller (PP) asked how auto renewals get generated, is everything auto renewed? Landis responded that it would be automatically generated by the system. Similarly, to going fine free, auto renewals would require rewriting the loan rules because whether an item can be renewed is controlled in those loan rules. Ryan (JO) stated she could see a benefit to auto renewals even if a library is fine free. This way the patron would receive the renewal notice instead of simply being billed for the item after 21 or 28 days. Coulter brought up the fact that libraries near one another, where patrons could borrow from either, might get confusing if one library has auto renewals and the other does not. Miller asked if every PrairieCat library would have to enroll in auto renewals or if each PrairieCat library would have a choice. Coulter confirmed it is her understanding that each library would get to choose. Miller wondered if there are several libraries that choose to enroll in auto renewals, would the PrairieCat staff have enough time to go through and change each ones' loan rules. Landis stated that is a concern because of the number of loan rules allocated to PrairieCat, number we have already used, and how many more we would need to use for something like this. Coulter's concern is, if we implement auto renewals, will we use up all of our loan rules to the point where we won't be able to add new members. Landis said it should not get that bad, we have a maximum of 1800 loan rules from Innovative and we have used 700. Plus, there is a way to reuse loan rules, it just has not been done by PrairieCat so it would take some research. Dale (RL) said auto renewals sounds great. Her library is fine free, so auto renewals would keep unreturned items from entering the billing cycle as quickly. Reddick is fine free but does put fines on new items that are late. Dale sees a potential problem that a patron may get confused because if they check out a new item and new items do not auto renew, the patron will receive a fine on the item they thought would auto renew. Ryan agrees with Dale's concern.

Coulter suggested gauging interest auto renewals and setting up a test site. Landis mention we would need a library to volunteer to be a test site that has a separate patron type for their staff. From there, we could set up their staff to be the test.

Landis stated that even if we want to test there is a setting in Sierra that would affect all libraries. It is the setting that limits the due date for an item to a patron's expiration date. Currently, that setting is set to yes, and we would have to change it to no in order for auto renewals to work properly. Auto renewals seem like a straightforward idea, but underneath the surface there are several moving pieces to it, which can get complicated. Auto renewals will affect notices and the new Vega LX coming out will also affect notices. Landis asked if we should wait to test auto renewals until after we know what Vega LX will look like. Coulter agreed. Noffke (LI) stated this is something her library would be very interested in but agrees, we should wait until Vega.

Griggs (TC) asked Landis to explain why stats go down when libraries implement auto renewals. Landis answered when the automatic renewal is processed by Sierra, it is automatically assigned a stat group code "0" so you do not get credit for that renewal. Coulter said we had the same problem with web renewals, and we were able to break it out. She will check to see if it would be possible to break out the group code for auto renewals, as well. Griggs thinks auto renewals would be a great thing to offer if and when we can.

Coulter stated PrairieCat will do a plus delta chart and bring it back to the Committee in October.

6. Update, IT support bid, discussion, and next steps
Coulter (PrairieCat) reminded the Committee that at the last meeting it was decided to do another survey to find out from the people who initially said they were interested in IT support if they were still interested and what kind of equipment they would need to have supported. Originally, we had 22 libraries who were interested in IT support, after the second survey, we had 13 responses and of those, only 8 said they were still interested. Coulter believes we would have more interest if we had hard numbers of what this service would cost. Coulter suggested writing up a bid and sending it out to the three companies. The Committee agrees. Coulter will get the bid written up within the next week or so and share it with the Committee for review.

7. Discussion, need for committee member nominations/suggestions
Coulter (PrairieCat) stated we no longer need to discuss this due to the nominations of Krystal Waugamon and Nicole Johnson. The Committee thanked Krystal and Nicole for joining.

Miller (PP) asked if it would be possible to start the Resource Sharing meetings sooner after the Delegates Assembly since those meetings are not taking as long as planned. The Committee agreed to more the October meeting up to 12:00 pm.

8. Public comments
There were no public comments.

9. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 1:00-2:00 pm, Senica's Oak Ridge Golf Club or online via Zoom