

Resource Sharing Advisory Council

October 18, 2005

ATTENDEES: Betty Albright, Rob Carle, Jean Marie Cole, Marsha Doyle, Dawn Geurds, Lorraine Smi, Joe Thornton, Amy Williams

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING: Joe distributed the minutes from the previous meeting (September 15, 2005) and they were approved without discussion.

WITHDRAWN ITEMS: We decided a few meetings ago that UHLS will delete withdrawn items for all libraries that don't request to delete them themselves. The question for this meeting is whether we should send the items that cannot be deleted with our script (because they have holds on them) to the owning library so they can contact the patron and either cancel the hold or place it on another item. The alternative would be for us to just delete the item without notifying the patron at all. The consensus was that we should send the problem items to the libraries. The entire list of withdrawn items that have holds on them is below:

APLH	A million little pieces	31182015604316
APLM	Arabic	31182016049859
APLM	Italian with Michel Thomas	31182016115866
APLM	Pride and prejudice	31182015947723
APLM	Tuesdays with Morrie an old man, a young man, and life's greatest lesson	31182014804164
COHS	Dora's Halloween adventure	38115100175746
GUIL	The lost boy a foster child's search for the love of a family	38119101040743
RCSC	Star wars clone wars. Volume 2, Victories and sacrifices.	38126100066694

REQUEST SYSTEM STRANGE BEHAVIOR: Marsha has noticed, and Geoff confirmed, that some requests are "hanging up." From Marsha:

Since the change over has been made to local requests going to patrons of the owning library, requests that have been previously made are hanging up in the system. We have to delete the request and then do another request to a specific library.

Since Geoff could not attend today's meeting we decided to keep this on the agenda for next month's Resource Sharing meeting.

NEW COURIER BAGS FOR CD's, DVD's, ETC.: Jo-Ann gave Joe a small, lockable bag to show to Resource Sharing, which is intended to hide, protect, and otherwise secure valuable, pilferage-prone, and fragile material from damage and theft. UHLS will purchase 1,000 of these bags, but no library is required to use them. The group was unanimous in their lack of enthusiasm for the idea and in their certainty that no one would use the bags. Joe will pass that information back to Jo-Ann.

While we're on the subject, the plastic bins are also (still) unpopular. "Water gets in and sits in the bottom." "There's not enough room in some courier vans." etc.

NEW NOTICE SYSTEM: In response to complaints from some libraries about missing or late-arriving hold and overdue notices, UHLS developed a system that enables libraries to view the contents of all notices online, select which ones to print, and submit them for immediate printing and mailing at UHLS. This would take the courier completely out of the notice process.

Some of the issues we discussed:

- Is it mandatory? Can some libraries opt for the old way if others opt for the new?
- Can the system be set to print the notices automatically if a library doesn't review them by a specified time each day?
- Can the online displays be sorted in call-number order so circ staff can use it to search the stacks? (Now they separate the printed forms and sort them manually.)

The general feeling was that this system is potentially useful, needs further discussion/development, and that things are ok as they are now. People are satisfied with the timeliness of notice delivery by the courier.

MISCELLANEOUS: Marsha asked if we could write a report that shows the ages (age ranges) of RCSC patrons. Joe said yes.

Amy Maurer asked via email why items with statuses other than "expired" show up on the "expired holds" lists. Cancelled holds also appear there. Other than that, UHLS will have to investigate.

Dawn said that one patron (Tracy Basile(sp?)) has been in the expired hold list for years, probably because there's no 'expire date' in the request record. UHLS will investigate.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2005 at 9:00 AM at UHLS.