

Board of Trustees Special Meeting August 12, 2015

Present: Stephanie Fiori, Steve Piazza, Emily Rose, Frank MacGrory, Joe Mule, Maribeth Eugene

Steve still had an action item to do the phone interview survey for the SOAR assessment. Emily also named the other surveys and that many items didn't fit under a particular service response.

Joe provided the latest list of SRs.

Stephanne : need to set priorities and, hence, the value of the plan.

Joe talked about the need to have focus, the need to have all trustees involved and the need to have a service developed to respond to demand. He is concerned that our goals and objectives may be too ambitious; also how important it is to reach out to YA and the low number of hours we devote to that group. Little we can do other than re-deploy resources. As it is now, Joe and Karen are helping Susan. Stephanie: need to reduce the number of programs and shift emphasis.

Joe explained that the role of the Board is to approve goals and objectives and staff must understand relevant activities to meet the goals and objectives. The Board must leave activities to staff. Stephanie: must have flexibility in plan's goals and objectives and we may need a once a year review, a long meeting ("three hours") to review the plan.

Emily: need to clean up policies which will be part of the plan and they can't be too specific, Stephanie stated: "reasonable and customary."

Joe: Board members will need to have a greater role in our document. Grant applications must be in by October 1 but we can't apply until we have goals and objectives. We need 95% of document done by September's Board meeting. We want document to "mean something, staff has clear direction from Board." Year 1: take major assessment and not apply until following year. Two other possibilities: BPL may take on digitization and if we find an online calendar, may apply for that. Ryan also has a timeline for building maintenance. Getting the roof fixed is "huge."

Stephanne: what is timeline? Joe: not clear; staff needs to be less defined by roles: YA, adult, etc.

Emily: a PEW survey states libraries and schools should cooperate more and Stephanie stated it isn't just media specialists who need to be contacted; important for schools to come to the library for sources material. Emily stated we need sub-committees.

Respectfully submitted,

Maribeth Eugene

Scribe, Strategic Plan Committee