



HRLC Technology Committee Minutes: May 3, 2007

In attendance: Amy Kearns, Mary Martin, Ellen Osborne, Rosalie Baker, Valerie Smith, Jackie Alectoridis, Leigh Keller

We congratulated Joanne Roukens, our librarian of the year.

Director's Report: Joanne Roukens

The Strategic Plan is complete and will be voted on at the annual meeting (May 17th). Technology is a key trend identified in the plan. Other key trends identified include diversity, reading adversity, high customer service expectations, libraries as community spaces, media changes, service to teens and seniors, technology in the library and increased focus and accountability.

This led to questions about: the impact and use of new technology in libraries; the long tail vs. popular, the baby boomers vs. teen users and the method of incorporating new tools, such as the Blackberry, and Treo?

As we implement the plan we need to consider what services are central to the HRLC mission and whether we have the resources to develop and support them. We need to consider which services provide the most value to our members.

Joanne went over the members' survey which impacted the plan. The most frequently mentioned topics in the survey include delivery, advocacy, technology, customer service, marketing, and PR.

Recommended changes include: the creation of dedicated list-serves, one for materials offers, one for discussion and one for important announcements. The redesign of the region's web page will also be a priority.

Discussions

Amy Kearns stated that her main goal was to recruit more active members for the committee. We will try to use the July 26th technology open house as a recruiting tool.

Amy discussed taking the technology committee on the road. The idea would be to hold the meeting at other sites and invite the staff members from the host library to attend the meeting and then recruit them for committee membership.

We discussed the need to bridge the technology gap between younger and older staff members. We need to consider the psychology of change.

There was a quick wrap up of NJLA. Robert Lackie's program on personal information was highlighted. Lackie's web page is <http://robertlackie.com>.

Helene Blowers program of the Web 2 technology challenge should be examined. We may want to try to duplicate the program at HRLC. If we do the challenge we need to hold workshops focusing on the topics of the challenge such as Blogger workshops.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 13th, 2:30-4pm at the HRLC Denville offices



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