

## **Pillsbury Free Library Technology Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2014**

**Present:** Michelle Allen, David Chmielecki and Library Director Nancy Ladd

**Absent:** Shandi Allen

Meeting opened at 6:20 p.m.

1. Purpose of the meeting: Discuss the technology needs of the library in order to make recommendations to the board for the 2015 budget.
2. The committee recommends to the board that they budget for several items in 2015. These are:
  - A. Constant Contact Marketing Software service or similar product (Goal 1-C-1)
    - Mail Chimp is a free service, which allows up to 2000 subscribers and/or up to 12,000 emails per month. This should be more than sufficient for the library's needs and Nancy has learned that other libraries use this method successfully.
  - B. Tablet style device for public to borrow for access to Overdrive – purchase 2 (Goal 2-B-1)
    - This goal can be combined with Goal 4-A-2: Purchase one or more Chrome books or mini laptops to provide the public with access to technology for information gathering, communication and basic technology needs.
    - The committee recommends the purchase of two Chrome books or other mini laptops that can also function as tablet style e-readers. These would be purchased with a protection plan.
    - **Budget a total of \$700 for these items.**
  - C. Video player for Frank Maria Room (Goal 3-A-1)
    - The committee recommends the purchase of a Blu-ray DVD player that will play multiple formats.
    - **Budget \$100 for this item.**
  - D. Computers for use as public catalogs – purchase 2 (Goal 4-A-1)
    - The committee recommends the purchase of one new computer for this purpose and the repurposing of one current staff computer when it is replaced (see item E below).
    - **Budget \$550 for this item.**
  - E. Computers for staff use – purchase 2 (Goal 5-A-1&2)
    - The committee recommends the purchase of two new computers for this purpose and the repurposing of one of the current staff computers being replaced for use as a public catalog (see item D above).
    - **Budget a total of \$1100 for these items.**
  - F. Technology Consultant work including: General Technology Support (Goals 1, 2 and 6) and Monthly update assistance (Goal 6-C-1)
    - Nancy will look at the number of hours required for these tasks.
  - G. CD player to lend so that patrons are able to make use of the library's CD collection.
    - **Budget \$50 for this item.**
3. Based on a comment at the board meeting of 9/16/14, the committee investigated the law regarding filtering computer access to objectionable content as well as options for filtering. The library has no legal obligation to filter objectionable content from public computer access, neither fixed computers the library provides nor Wi-Fi access on personally owned devices. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires the blocking of minors' access to images that are obscene, child pornography or harmful to minors and further blocks adults' access to images that are obscene or child pornography. However, CIPA only applies to schools and libraries as a condition for federal funding or E-rate discounts for Internet access and does not require wholesale compliance. The library does not receive such funding or discounts and therefore is not obligated to follow CIPA.

There are two options for implementing filters. These are a) to install filters on the fixed computers the library provides, or b) use a service to filter from a server that would impact fixed computers as well as Wi-Fi access. In either case the content filtered would likely be broader than what is presumably desired. Therefore the library would need to provide a method of overriding a block on a

specific website. However, this would come down to a staff decision to unblock or leave blocked which would put an undue burden on the staff. Additionally, the patron would need to request the specific website be unblocked which might cause embarrassment and put a barrier between the patron and their right to Constitutionally protected speech.

It is the committee's conclusion that a great deal more research would need to be dedicated to this should the board decide to implement filtering of computer access.

4. The committee will submit a funding request to the Warner Fall Foliage Festival by the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline for two Chrome books or other mini laptops (\$700) as well as a Blu-ray DVD player (\$100).

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Allen