MOBIUS Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
July 13, 2007


Guests: Jim Cogswell, Jim Dutton, Felicity Dykas, Janine Gordon

I. The meeting was called to order at 10:05AM by Julia Schneider.

II. Julia Schneider welcomed new committee members Valerie Darst, Treasurer 2009; Tony Garrett, Independent-at-Large 2009 and Stephanie Tolson who will replace Tesuk Im as Two Year Public-at-Large 2008.

III. A motion was made by Valerie Darst to adopt the meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Mollie Dinwiddie and the motion carried.

IV. A motion was made by Wendy McGrane to approve the May 4, 2007 Executive Committee minutes. The motion was seconded by Sharon McCaslin and the motion passed.

V. Executive Directors Report – Beth Fisher. Beth updated the committee on Agency implementation. It could take up to 30 days for implementation beginning December 15, 2007. She discussed 856 and Janine Gordon gave a brief update. Janine has talked with III about options. Jim Dutton was also asked to join the meeting to answer any questions regarding 956 issues. The share issue was discussed. These are links to free resources to share servers. These could be affected and MCO is exploring what else can be done to minimize disruption. Jim Cogswell said he had major overall concerns with III in general. Beth explained to the group that III said this is the largest conversion of Agency they have every done. III will test this summer to see how it goes. Sharon Bostick felt that the MOBIUS committees are confused and have questions. They feel they have not been involved in this process. Beth commented that MCO has done summary pages on Agency and distributed those to the committees. Discussion was postponed but Beth will be attending all the “first committee meetings” of the year to discuss this and any issues they may have. The new representative for III is Tim Whisenant. The MCO staff went to III training this week for two days. Beth informed the committee that the dues and assessments will be sent to the libraries shortly. Beth re-wrote Form 5 to make it more generic. Changes were made in the recurring and one-time fund areas. Other changes made included expressing concerns that internet users have a higher level of interaction and institutions need more of a balance between them regarding software. Jeremy Kintzel discussed MOBIUS having a pathway for a budget request outside the University request. Paul Wagner, Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Higher Education felt that it was not hurting MOBIUS to go through MU. Jeremy suggested that Beth and other committee members might want to have
an independent discussion with Mr. Wagner. The new legislative liaison for the Department of Higher Education is Zora Orbison and Kenneth Winn is the new senior associate in academic affairs for the Department of Higher Education. Wendy McGrane stated that she received approval to speak with the MSSU lobbyist at Legislative Day. The public libraries are represented but not necessarily the private schools. Wendy recommended composing a cover letter to senators and representatives which would include MOBIUS facts, accomplishments, amount of money requested and the scope of what the funds would be used for. This information would be sent to the appropriate individuals in advance of legislative day. It should also include the distinction that MOBIUS is associated with MU but is special and unique. MOBIUS should have a presence at legislative day. Beth gave the committee an update on the Information Resource Manager position for the MCO office. It is currently being advertised in many locations and Beth visited with several potential applicants while at ALA. She discussed the MOBIUS Communication Plan which includes developing a public presence, redesign of the webpage and developing promotional materials. Beth would like to resurrect the plan and use some of the reserve monies to begin this process. Stephanie Tolson suggested that she could possibly pursue some of the items but not all due to costs. Beth said all the tasks are linked together and that would be difficult. The Executive Committee gave Beth the authority to pursue the communication plan. Beth reviewed her goals and objectives for FY08. Julia Schneider suggested adding a monthly communiqué to the MOBIUS library directors on a regular basis. On August 7, 2007 MU will go live with single sign on which means all students will receive new student numbers. They will be able to log into one site and then navigate to other sites from there. Students will not be able to use social security numbers anymore for their student ID number. MU can be used as a model for other institutions wanting to incorporate single sign on.

VI. A draft agenda for the September 7, 2007 Council meeting was distributed and discussed.

VII. MOBIUS 2007 Annual Conference – Felicity Dykas presented an overview and update of the recent annual conference at Tan-Tar-A. Overall reviews were excellent. Each cluster is now represented on the MACPAC committee.

VIII. Internet Connectivity for MOBIUS – Bill Mitchell. MOBIUS has an MOU with MOREnet which includes internet connectivity. When MOBIUS was formed 10 years ago the internet was not very specialized. Bill gave a brief history of the MOBIUS/MOREnet relationship. MOREnet was charged with providing connectivity to MOBIUS users making sure that the network and performance were transparent and resolving any issues in a timely manner. MOREnet has served MOBIUS well to date but have services changed and is MOREnet the best provider for those services? A discussion followed on possible future services that MOBIUS might need as it grows and moves forward. Richard Coughlin was interested in what the cost might be to consider another vendor for those services. Bill stated that for independent users it would depend on where they are located and for rural areas it would
probably be more cost effective to use the MOREnet services. Wendy McGrane was concerned on what the impact would be on the help desk if any changes were made. Beth suggested that Bill attend the MOBIUS Council meeting in February to discuss what MOREnet supplies to the schools and answer any questions.

IX. Reports – MOREnet: Bill Mitchell. MOREnet received $2.5 million in lottery funds to help with the 40% growth in band width. The fiber and equipment RFP’s for the NGN project are in the negotiation and evaluation stage. MOREnet has asked for an additional $2.5 million increase for the FY09 budget. Benefits for MOBIUS continuing with MOREnet are they are robust, reliable and have end-to-end service plus MOBIUS receives on-line resources. Department of Higher Education: Jeremy Kintzel. The Department of Higher Education is developing seven course competencies for general education coursework. If you are interested in participating in the discussion group contact Jeremy. The funding formula and policy work are ongoing. He also briefly reviewed tuition control, institutional policy and binding arbitration of territorial issues. Julia Schneider expressed the committees’ appreciation for Jeremy’s involvement on the MOBIUS Executive Committee. Missouri State Library – Margaret Conroy. No report.


XI. Unfinished Business – Julia Schneider. The Policy on Admission of New Members was discussed and reviewed. A motion was made by Sharon McCaslin to accept this policy as corrected, was seconded by Tony Garrett and the motion passed. Julia will send this updated policy to the Council members for a vote via e-mail. Beth discussed the Task Force on the Financial Plan. MCO is looking at the assessments and what basic services are provided to the members for that cost. MCO is trying to cost out what the basic services are and what secondary services might be included. Beth suggested hiring a consultant to determine the strengths and weaknesses of MOBIUS. Richard Coughlin would like to see a strategic plan completed and then a financial plan to match. Beth is currently discussing whether MOBIUS is eligible for State Library funding with Margaret Conroy. A short discussion followed. Beth has the support of the Executive Committee to move forward in locating a consultant to assist with strategic planning. The Taskforce on Governance and Growth Management was briefly discussed as were the By-Laws. The By-Laws only have provisions for committees. The group discussed exploring and adding provisions for additional task forces, special interest groups, etc. The Host Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding will have to be reviewed by each individual institutional upper
level management groups. Julia asked Mollie Dinwiddie to spearhead a group to help finalize these issues and documents. This group will include Mollie Dinwiddie, Beth Fisher, Wendy McGrane and Julia Schneider. They hope to present their findings and recommendations at the February MOBIUS Council meeting.

XII. The next Executive Committee meeting will be September 6, 2007 from 1:00PM-5:00PM in Room 205, MOREnet offices. The MOBIUS Council will meet the next day, September 7, 2007 at Peachtree Center from 10:00AM-3:00PM with a continental breakfast beginning at 9:30AM.

XIII. A motion to adjourn was made by Tony Garrett and seconded by Stephanie Tolson. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan Hatfield
7/19/2007