The Media Cooperative met at Union-PSCE on Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2007. Members present were: Nell Chenault (VCU), Scarlett Dodi (RMC), Joy Galloni (RBC), Ann Knox (Union-PSCE), Sam Phillips (JSR), Dywana Saunders (UR), Ronald Shelton (VUU), Anita Williams (VCU).

Statistics

The 2006-2007 statistics were reviewed. An updated summary reflecting the RALC passes given out at JSR and RMC is attached to these minutes.

Considerable discussion was focused on the calculation of the amount RALC schools should be spending on media purchases. This figure has been used in the past to insure that schools were adding to their media collections, and to protect media budgets in years when cutbacks were necessary. It was also used as a benchmark for continued participation in the Media Cooperative.

The formula used ($20 x the number of items borrowed each year) has been in place since 1992. The original formula was based on the average rental price of an item rather than average cost of an item. However, rental costs for academic titles are now considerably more than that, and the average price of an item has also changed considerably in 15 years. The members present voted 7-1 to recommend that this amount be changed to $40 beginning 2007-2008, although the RALC directors will be asked if they want to continue calculating these statistics.

It should be noted that many additions to collections are gifts, and that a lower acquisitions figure does not mean that schools are not adding to their collections. (See statistics on DVD additions at Richard Bland in comparison to money spent.) If this calculation continues to be reported, careful attention should be given to total acquisitions and not just the acquisitions budget.

RALC ACTION:

- Determine if figure should continue to be reported
- Change acquisitions per item amount to $40

Committee Structure

The members discussed the need for the media cooperative to remain a standing committee of RALC as long as booking and the shuttle remained a part of our work together. However, the Bylaws/Operational policy document that formed the basis of the media cooperative years ago needs to be rewritten. Nell Chenault moved that a new document be produced describing the current work of the committee and that the old operational policy document be retired. The vote was 7-0 in favor. Ann Knox will write a draft of a new purpose statement that will be approved by the members and then be given to RALC at their 10/11/2007 meeting.
RALC ACTION:

- Approve new purpose/structure document of Media Cooperative Administrative

Dywana Saunders will be ordered new routing forms. We decided not to use pregummed forms. Please let her know if you need new forms.

Booking Issues:

A new contacts form will be sent that lists the way that booking representatives prefer to be contacted for bookings.

Dywana Saunders requested that everyone give her a title and call number when requesting items, and to give as much lead time as possible in making requests.

As information for those searching the RALC catalog, the following collection/item designation means that the item will not be loaned to COOP members:

- JSR – Popular collection
- UR – MRC Recreational DVD

Education

Nell Chenault reported on several events coming up that might be of interest to members. Information about these events can be found at these links:

- National Government Video & Technology Expo (http://www.gvexpo.com/)
- National Media Market (http://www.nmm.net/)
- Preservation and Salvage of Audiovisual Materials. Online course offered through SOLINET. (http://www.solinet.net/workshops/ws_details.cfm?doc_id=3020&WKSHPID=12PSAM)

Members voted to ask RALC directors to approve the use of money from the staff development line item to enable media representatives to participate in the RALC class. We request $50 per person (for one representative of each RALC school) to be used towards tuition for this class. Members are encouraged to register before Oct. 19 as the cost of the course before that time is $100. After Oct. 19, the course costs $140.

RALC ACTION:
o Approve one $50 grant per RALC school to be used for tuition for the SOLINET Preservation & Salvage of Audiovisual Materials course on November 9, 2007 from 10 am – 12 noon.

Minutes submitted by Ann Knox, Media Cooperative Chairperson