# Annual Report of the MOBIUS Public Library Committee

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Submitted by: Nathan James

**This report covers tasks and activities undertaken during the period beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and provides an overview of scheduled activities for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Please note if this is an annual report.**

**Date of last meeting:** January 28, 2021

**Date of next meeting:** TBD

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

### Action Items Completed:

In 2020 the Public Library Committee renewed its activity after a hiatus. Nathan James, the new Public Library Board Representative took on the role of Chair, and Renee Brumett, Lee Razer, and Sarah Peterson (who replaced Sue Anderson) agreed to serve.

The first item to tackle was a review of the Committee Charge. The existing charge was:

*The Public Library committee exists to represent and further the unique interests of MOBIUS public libraries. The committee will meet online three times a year to discuss any issues of concern to the group. The committee also intends to organize two programs for the MOBIUS Annual Conference that are specifically geared towards public library staff.*

The statements about number of meetings and programs at the Annual Conference was removed because these are requirements for all committees and are stated in the Policy on Standing Committees and Working or Interest Groups (note however that the Policy states committees must offer a single session at the annual conference rather than two sessions).

The charge was simplified and focused on promoting public library interests and increasing public library participation in MOBIUS. It now reads:

Working in conjunction with MOBIUS staff, this committee will engage with and solicit feedback from MOBIUS public library members to promote the unique interests of those members and encourage public library participation in MOBIUS activities and governance.

Along with reviewing the charge we needed to contact those who had served on the committee and ensure they still wanted to participate. While we didn't manage to contact all of the former members, we did contact a sufficient number, and replaced one member with another from the same institution and were able to meet for the first time on 28 January 2021.

At the January 2021 meeting we discussed action items we would like to pursue. The group achieved consensus around two items:

* Recommending the extension of loan periods for audiobook CD and music CD format materials from 14 days to 28 days. The recommendation was made to the Circulation-Courier Committee which then asked the Board to consider the change. The change was approved, and constituent libraries began making the change to the relevant loan periods on 9 June 2021.
* Surveying public library constituents to determine which electronic resources each library currently pays for, in order to report on recommended areas where MOBIUS might help public libraries fill electronic resource gaps or negotiate more favorable contract terms. We have collected initial data for this survey from the existing committee members, but still need to determine the final form the survey will take and publish it.

We are currently working to reorganize the terms of the committee members so that we have staggered terms. Lee Razer has agreed to roll off the committee if we have a replacement, Renee Brumett has agreed that her term will continue for one more year, Sarah Peterson has agreed to serve for two more years, and we still need to contact Kim Kietzman to ascertain her preferences. The goal is to end up with staggered terms with two members ending their term next year, and two continuing their term for two more years.