

Task Force on Strategic Planning
Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2008

Members present: Jim Cogswell, Valerie Darst, Mollie Dinwiddie, Kathleen Finegan, Beth Fisher, Carol Harper, Corky McCormack, Gail Staines, Hugh Stocks

- I. Valerie Darst introduced the task force as the meeting began at 10 A.M.
- II. Jim Cogswell discussed the vision of MOBIUS which included striving to be a preferred gateway for information resources for all Missouri citizens, be member driven, and be responsive to global, changing technology. It should be a full partner with state and government agencies to provide learning, development, and economic wellbeing. It should be an open accessible learning environment with no direct cost to users.
- III. Hugh Stocks discussed the mission of MOBIUS, saying it will become an agent for information transfer without regard to format. He believes it should serve information needs for all of Missouri and be a collaboration of all types of libraries.
- IV. Gail Staines discussed the values of MOBIUS, including being collaborative, quick and reliable, and forward thinking.
- V. In the future it was discussed that MOBIUS should strive to be a preferred gateway to quality information resources for all Missouri citizens. It should also be a member-driven organization, responsive to the dynamic nature of the global information environment and the challenges of ever-changing technology. MOBIUS should be a full partner with state governmental agencies to promote and facilitate learning, personal development, and economic wellbeing through timely access to quality information. It should also be an open and accessible learning environment, available without direct cost to end-users
- VI. Joe Ford and Mollie Dinwiddie added that MOBIUS is a community asset that supports educational, cultural, and social values. Joe Ford added that it is important to know what the members value and deliver that effectively.
- VII. Beth Fisher proposed that we discuss how to define MOBIUS and asked the task force if there is a difference between the system MOBIUS and the organization MOBIUS.
- VIII. Hugh Stocks suggested that it is very important that MOBIUS is collaborative. It provides service to its members and does many critical things that patrons never see. He also suggested that we are not a learning environment but we are an essential resource to a learning environment.
- IX. Mollie Dinwiddie added that it is necessary to speak to both the members of MOBIUS and the general public.
- X. The task force created several drafts of a mission statement. While the discussion of a mission statement was going on, the possibility of making a distinction between MOBIUS the system and MOBIUS the catalog was discussed.

- XI. Beth Fisher made the point that the greatest value of MOBIUS is its services. There will be a time when all organizations that wish to join MOBIUS will have joined, but MOBIUS will always be able to continue providing services. This also raised the question of whether MOBIUS is simply for libraries or if it should encompass other organizations. Gail Staines pointed out that individuals may also want to join MOBIUS.
- XII. A tentative mission statement was decided upon. "MOBIUS member organizations collaborate to provide quality information resources and services to the people of Missouri."
- XIII. The values of MOBIUS were discussed. It was decided that the values would fall under five large categories with subcategories and that the values would be introduced by a broad opening statement. The broad opening statement would discuss the values of trustworthiness, helpfulness, mutual respect, and dedication.
- XIV. A discussion followed of which subcategory values fell under each of the five larger categories. Eventually it was decided that under the broad category of access would fall quality of collective resources, speediness, and reliability. Under the category of service customer satisfaction, quality of services, and open communication were listed. Collaboration and partnerships made up the next category, and the subtopics were open communication, resource sharing, and inclusiveness. The next broad category was innovative, which included forward thinking, creative, flexible, and nimble. Fiscal responsibility was the last category, which encompassed being cost-effective, efficiency, sustainability and growth, and financial transparency.
- XV. The task force decided to create a survey of 15-20 questions for members and the public to evaluate. The categories for this survey so far are catalog, borrowing, training, membership, management and governing structure, finances, and future directions such as technology direction and central storage.
- XVI. A timeline of events to come was discussed. In May task force members will email survey categories to Gail Staines who will create a draft of the survey for TFSP. In June the task force will share the draft documents for the mission, vision, and values at the council meeting, where they will also talk about the surveys. Surveys will then be sent out with a deadline of June 30. In July the task force will analyze the data of the survey. A one day Strategic Planning Retreat with Council will be held July 25 to develop goals and objectives from the survey results. In August the task force will participate in Strategic Plan Development. In September the Mission, Vision, Values, Goals and Objectives will be approved at the Council meeting.