

Idaho Talking Book Service Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

10:00am – 12:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting Purpose: To remain current with Talking Book Service items

Meeting Guidelines:

- We take a statewide view on topics
- We listen as allies
- We follow the agenda
- We come away with next steps
- We state our first names before speaking

Desired Outcomes:

- Review items for 2022 and finalize calendars
- Better understand Newslines and promote accordingly
- Seek input on TBS Work Plan 2022
- Receive updates on ARPA Outreach and from each other

Meeting Leader: LeAnn Gelskey

Facilitator: Stephanie Bailey-White

Recorder: Judy Mooney

Time	Agenda Item	Action	Time
10:00	Meeting set-up: agenda, guidelines, additional topics	Review Agree	5 min
10:05	Icebreaker activity - Stephanie	Share	5 min

10:10	2022 items to review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee member terms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dana Ard, Steve Achabal, Jeanne-Marie Kopecky ○ Replace Student Representative, Aubrey Matthews • Proposed Meeting Schedule (March 2, May 25, Sept. 7, Dec. 7) 	Review Discuss Finalize	15 min
10:25	Newsline Q&A with Dana	Share	15 min
10:40	Work Plan 2022	Discuss	15 min
10:55	Updates on ARPA Outreach – ‘Big Bold Blitz’ – LeAnn	Review Share	5 min
11:00	Break if needed		5 min
11:05	TBS update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Book Club ○ Volunteer Coordinator 	Share	15 min
11:20	Committee member updates	Share	25 min
11:45	Next steps	Discuss List	10 min
11:55	Meeting review	Share	5 min
12:00	Adjourn		

Attendees: Alison Steven, Catherine Stanton, Dana Ard, Erin Rainey, Jeanne-Marie Kopecky, Judy Mooney, LeAnn Gelskey, Marina Rose, Stephanie Bailey-White, Steve Achabal.

Stephanie Icebreaker activity: What is your Favorite Soup or Book?

Dana -a dog name beautiful!

Catherine-How Iceland changed the world, and Havana Banana.

Marina-Potato soup, book Martian

Erin-Vegetarian soup with Beans

Steve-French onion, Marley and Me

Allison-Tomato Basil, How to Win Friends & Influence People

LeAnn- Violet and Daisy: The Story of Vaudeville's Famous Conjoined Twins

Judy-Chicken noodle, The Only Woman in the Room

Stephanie-Anthony Doerr's new book; Cloud Cuckoo Land

Committee member terms: LeAnn, Dana, Steve, and Erin will renew for another 3 years. Jean Marie will be moving on and Erin will take her place. Contracts will go to Stephane to approve.

Replacement Student Representative: Send candidates to LeAnn via email.

Next meeting Schedule: LeAnn set dates for 2022 March 02-May 25th, Sept. 7th, and Dec 7th.

Erin asked if the meeting time is always 10-12:00? LeAnn said yes unless someone wants to make a proposal to change it.

Newsline; Dana: Newsline is free for anyone who cannot read printed publications due to **vision loss, dyslexia, or a physical disability** is **eligible to receive NFB-NEWSLINE**. Newsline started in 1996.

Newsline has Local newspapers:

- Idaho Statesman
- Idaho Falls Post Register
- Spokesman Review
- National newspapers, including the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*
- Breaking news sources, including *CNN*, *BBC*, and *ESPN Online*
- International newspapers, including *Financial Times* and *Vancouver Sun*
- Magazines, including *Time*, *Consumer Reports*, *Guideposts*, and *Smithsonian Magazines, for students*
- Emergency weather alerts and seven-day forecasts localized to your zip code or GPS location
- The information that scrolls along the bottom of your television screen during emergency alerts
- More than 100,000 job listings from two national job sources
- TV listings localized to your zip code and provider
- Retail ads
- Educational research for students

Newsline can be access with:

Idaho Talking Book Player

Victor Stream

Mobile apps

By Phone

IOS mobile

Amazon Alexa

Computer or laptop

Via Email

You can go to [NFB-NEWSLINE® | National Federation of the Blind](#) to print or download an application

How does NFB promote? Newsline coordinator for the state Scott White.

Erin: Does Newsline have an application for academics to apply? Erin would like to be approved to demo Newsline for students. Dana suggested to contact Scott White at NFB.

Catherine: I would like a Demonstration of Newsline at the next advisory committee meeting to see exactly what is available or to see a demo video. Dana will arrange someone to demo Newsline.

Marina: I would also be interested in the Newsline Demo at the next meeting and signing up to promote!

LeAnn: TBS can write an article in the next Connection newsletter to promote Newsline. TBS would like some promotional flyers, at the next advisory meeting.

LeAnn: work plan 2022:

Collections:

TBS volunteer coordinator left to pursue another job within the state. We are working on how to move forward after the holidays and the first of the year. We are not able to upload Idaho audio books to BARD currently due to old software.

Our software needs to be switched over to Hindenburg which is an excellent audiobook software and easy to edit.

Jeff was hired part time to work in the studio with volunteer Sue Vap. They are watching training videos while switching to Hindenburg software.

Megan Egbert was hired as a part time liaison to help with technical assessment of CSRs, as training will be needed with NLS working toward new technology and devices.

TBS has a RUB program if anyone would like to review unrated TBS books and add subject codes. Volunteers can email LeAnn who will let Sue Walker know and how to get started.

Customer Service reps working with public outreach:

Judy went to Baby Boomers Lifestyle Expo and talked with 73 people that passed by and handed out flyers. **Judy:** I talked with assisted-living vendors and made some great contacts.

We will Participate with the Optometrist convention in April of 2022. CSRs are working with libraries and care facilities, posting on social media, and working on ads. LeAnn is working with the Commission on Ageing newsletter.

LeAnn-The last Idaho Talking book Service book club was, "A Dog Named Beautiful." The next book club Megan Egbert will host. The title is yet to be announced after we meet. Some of the titles that we had looked at before we will discuss. We will reach out to everyone with that information so stay tuned. We are excited to do another one, and those are quarterly.

LeAnn had the opportunity to go to the association of rural and small libraires conference in Reno. While LeAnn was there, she was able to tour the Nevada State Library in Reno which is the home of the Nevada Talking Book Service. They are comparable to Idaho in their patron size and base. They also have 2 studios, and they rely on volunteers for some of their recordings. LeAnn hopes to bring some of those ideas back here and implement those maybe in this coming year if we feel it would be beneficial for our library.

LeAnn: I was able to visit with them and they were very gracious. I told them we would love for them to tour the Idaho Talking Books one day. It was a great experience, and I was really impressed with their streamlined services and how they work with their patrons.

Thanks to all of you, because it's just been amazing when you have volunteers that help so much and empower us to give us the support that we need to be able to do what we need to do the help our patrons so I'm grateful to all of you!

LeAnn's Update on the Big Bold Blitz one-time federal funds that were made available to support some of these efforts. CSR's have sent out boxes to our ambassadors at the public libraires with promotional materials and a large print book for them to keep. We sent materials also out to care facilities, across the state of Idaho with promotional TBS items and 6 large print books for their library. Each CSR has a region that they are working within. The CSRs have been successful in contacting most of the people within their areas. We did offer some additional training to the ambassadors who couldn't make our initial meeting and orientation. We all get so excited when a CSR gets a new library or assisted living facility to sign up! It would be great to travel to some of our libraries next year, but we'll just have to see happens.

Judy attended the Baby Boomers Lifestyle Expo at the Idaho Fairgrounds and made some connections there with other care facilities. I sent out flyers and holders to put in their office. They were excited and would like us to come out and do a presentation for their residence.

Member up-dates:

Alison Steven/Idaho Commission for the Blind:

For the youth that we have at the commission we are moving ahead with setting up a residential program for our summer programs in 2022.

It looks like dorms will be available to us so hopefully that will mean some work experience programs and our college days program will be available to our students there.

Larry Henry who has coordinated the summer work experience program is retiring this month. The mantle is being handed off and we have a team of people. I don't know how he managed to do it single handed.

We are still running virtual programs it's working well for us because of being able to reach our students around the state. We are currently in the middle of social skills virtual program, which is a lot of fun. Thursday we will have a docent from the fine arts museums of San Francisco coming to give us a virtual audio tour of 3 or 4 of their pieces of art which is very creative way to offer training when you can't attend in person. I am excited to see how it goes. It's been very successful students have enjoyed interacting with each other at that program. We have other programs coming up in the spring, a work readiness program that we will do virtually that we did last year.

We are having a community of practice meetings across the board with teachers in Idaho who will be our rehab teachers or counselors from the commission.

Steve Achabal/Idaho Commission for the Blind:

We are fully staffed; we have a new rehab teacher in Boise her name is Mercy Chapman. She brings a lot of knowledge and skills and has personal knowledge of vision loss and blindness. Tyler Quispe is also a rehab teacher he just completed his 10-week training in our assessment training center and is up in the field. We are still meeting with individuals and still providing training in either their homes or their workplaces. We are following CDC guidelines and to be as proactive as possible and maintain safety standards.

Dana Ard/National Federation for the blind:

The American Action Fund, which is affiliated with the National Federation of blind, has a program in December called “Braille Readers are Leaders,” and it starts today! It is for children and adults in any stage of reading Braille. This year they’re not going to count pages read, they’re going to count minutes spent reading. There are prizes and they’ve got a lot of interesting things planned. You can register at <http://actionfund.beanstack.org> or e-mail BrailleReadingContest@actionfund.org or call 410-659-9315.

We are still planning to have an in-person convention in Idaho Falls on April 21st through the 23rd. We have invited the people who run “64-ounce games.” They build kits to make board games accessible to blind kids. They’re out of Texas, the husband and the wife will be at the convention on Friday night for game night to meet with parents of blind children.

They’re going to be a fun resource to know about, there is a lot of games that are not accessible to blind kids or adults.

LeAnn: If you have any ideas of what you might want me or someone at ICfL to speak on, or topics let me know and I will certainly put something together and be available to stand up at the conference.

Dana: We would like to get updates from agencies at the conference.

Marina Rose/Caldwell Public Library:

In October I was able to do a full staff training on BARD and the TBS service at our staff day! I demonstrated how to sign patrons up and the website as well; most of the staff is trained. I was excited to see the interest that my staff showed! The TBS player was awesome to demonstrate, so hopefully we’ll be able to do that

with Newline once I learn a little bit more about it. We continue to do outreach promoting TBS in assisted living centers. I just had a thought that we can possibly help with the eye doctors in our area if that would something helpful.

LeAnn: Yes absolutely! Thank you, Marina for all you do in your area it's amazing you are on top of it.

Stephanie Bailey-White: I'm thrilled that you were able to get that at all staff training. That is another idea that TBS team might see if we can help support and provide some incentives, maybe in and do some other things, to encourage more of that. What a great idea, so thank you.

Erin Rainey-Jean Marie didn't leave me with any updates, but I am getting so many ideas. I was just trying to think how I could do our training with our TVI, at our annual meeting. The 64-ounce game sounds amazing and American action so I am getting tremendous number of ideas. One of the things that I would like to focus on, and I haven't talked to Jim Murray about it is getting the youth, to spread the work in schools and making them a more important part of this piece. They're the ones that have the direct contact with when I was with students and teachers. I would like to focus on that and see if we can get some of these kids being early users on some of these programs, so they grow up with them.

Next Steps:

Newsline Demo

Ideas to promote Newsline

Leann will send out an invite for next year

Meeting review.

Dana; Well organized, well covered.

Student rep.

Next meeting: March 2, 2022

Agenda Items:

- Newsline Demo
- Ideas to promote Newsline