

**Idaho Talking Book Advisory Committee Meeting  
September 9th, 2020**

**Meeting Purpose:** To remain current with Talking Book Service items

**Desired outcomes:** By the end of the meeting, participants will:

- Understand need for eBooks and funding opportunities and digital initiatives
- Brainstorm how to collaborate to better meet the needs of our community
- Receive updates on TBS activities
- Share member updates

**Meeting Leader:** LeAnn Gelskey

**Facilitator:** Stephanie Bailey-White

**Recorder:** Judy Mooney

**Agenda**

Meeting set-up, introductions	Stephanie	Share	10 minutes
IMLS grant application/ebooks	Stephanie	Share	10 minutes
Supporting nursing home residents with grant funding for ebooks	All	Discuss Brainstorm	20 minutes
TBS updates including Scribe	LeAnn	Share	15 minutes
Discussion concerning USPS and impacts to TBS patrons	All	Discuss	10 minutes
Member updates	All	Share	20 minutes
Next steps	All	List	5 minutes

**Attending:** Alison Steven, Aubrey Matthews, Catherine Stanton, Colleen Clark, Dana Ard, Jeanne-Marie Kopecky, Judy Mooney, Marina Rose, Susan McCoy, Jeanne-Marie, LeAnn Gelskey, Stephanie Bailey-White, Steve Achabal, Travis Wilson.

**IMLS grant applications/eBooks;** ICfL has applied for \$450K grant for eBooks program It will also have to depend on the Governor’s office and DFM approval. ICfL is still working on funding sources but may use a CARES funds or LSTA funds, if necessary. Overdrive will be our vendor. ICfL will focus on E-audio books and will be offered to 20 schools and libraries around Idaho, as more students who will need to study at home. The timing is right to initiate this project, especially since it has been hard for people to access library and school buildings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Supporting nursing home residents:** CSR's outreach supporting nursing home, assisted living and independent living with residents not able to have access to people, they rely on audio books.

TBS has marketing materials "Say Yes! to TBS", to send out to libraries around Idaho and CSR'S to do follow up calls with libraries, to find out what other material they need to promote TBS to patrons that are visually or physically handicapped . Promoting E-books through funding.

**Katherine;** I am curious to the plan to set a separate composition for Public libraries.

**Stephanie;** Public libraries would sign agreement with Overdrive for 200,000 eBook titles to share with Idaho residents.

**Jeannie-Marie;** I would love to get eBooks in school libraries, like ISDB.

**Stephanie;** New titles would be available it is a statewide program.

**Jeannie-Marie;** I would like to see it help kids with dyslexia. With this pandemic eBook would be welcomed.

**Stephanie;** There is Dyslectic font for K through 12 on the overdrive app. There has been a demand for eBooks during this pandemic.

**LeAnn-**TBS has a plan to go through each county and list nursing homes, assisted living and independent living homes. In one data base of information. There is such a high turnover of activity directors in nursing homes.

**Dana:** I would add the names of activities directors to the nursing home database that you are creating and consider hosting a virtual event for them.

**LeAnn-** New at TBS is SCRIBE! The customer service reps. changed all their patrons over to SCRIBE. Each patron can have up to 3 cartridges with 10 books!

Our long-time employee Betty was with us for 25 years retired. Betty was our material handler in shipping and receiving. Linda is now taking care of downloading books, and unloading the springers, she has been busy since Betty left.

REALM Project's researched how long the virus stays on plastic and paper mail. TBS material is now quarantine for up to 5 days.

A mailbox in SE Idaho was removed. A patron called with concerned about mailing back books. The United States Postal Service said it will postpone its plan to remove or relocate mail collection bins until November 2020.

**Aubrey;** I would like to see TBS reach out to University and Colleges on-line. It would be useful to reach out to the education access centers at universities, 18 to age 24, that doesn't know of the service and cross promote eBooks.

**Up-dates:**

**Steve-**Our programs at ICBVI under independent living and training during the Pandemic, we had to use on-line technology to do assessments. It's been difficult to do assessments on-line as it's not as effective as hands on training or in person.

**Susan;** It has been interesting how schools have a new way of doing things. Each district has a new way of doing things with a collative spirit. TBS is relevant and usership has went up.

**Jean Marie;** She covers all Idaho school districts that have different plans, so it's been challenging. I 'am excited about the update on eBooks.

**Allison;** Has moved on-line to reach out to her students with library services like BARD. BARD makes it easy for IOS BRAILLE. With android you must download to an SD card. I was wondering why BARD requires more steps for Android users than for iPhone users.

**LeAnn;** I will check with NLS and get back to you.

**Catherine;** Our library is open now with restricted hours. We had summer reading, on-line and story time. We opened back in June, with full service. All games and kids' laptops have been put away. We are working to bring back on-line programs. I would be interested in eBooks with Overdrive.

**Marina Rose;** Caldwell Library, opened back up in June and close again in July-Aug. Home bound services had stopped we had fewer people to work with in nursing home and assisted living as they were shut down. I am still promoting TBS and suppling books to home bound patrons.

**Travis Wilson;** We have 290 veterans, with no new referrals. We are doing virtual set ups. On-line support groups expanding to get Vets set up. Some vets don't have computer assess. Some porch visits have been the new approach. They visit the home on the front porch.

**Dana;** The National Federation for the Blind cancelled their 2020 convention in Idaho Falls due to the pandemic. It is normally in March every year at Red Lion Inn. The date for the next conference for the National Federation for the Blind is set for March 25-27, 2021 depending on what happens with the virus.

**Colleen;** We have had locally recorded magazine delays, since the recording studio shut down and things have slowed down. We can only have one recording booth at a time and after each recording session we air the studio out. Instead magazines are taking 3 to 4 weeks to record. With the new SCRIBE in place locally recorded magazines now requires up-loading e-docs. We are the first library out of 50 libraries to do this.

- **Next Steps;**
- Questions came up as to why BARD requires more steps for Android users than for iPhone users. LeAnn will check with NLS.
- TBS will Create a list of nursing homes, assisted living and independent living homes.
- Dana keep us informed about the National Federation convention in March.
- eBooks with refreshable braille devises.
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10 TBS advisory meeting.