

**Talking Book Advisory Committee  
Meeting Agenda  
Wednesday, September 11, 2019  
Idaho Commission for Libraries Table Rock Room**

**Meeting leader:** Sue Walker

**Facilitator:** Randy Kemp

**Meeting recorder:** Candace Reynolds

**Meeting goals:** By the end of the meeting, participants will:

- Review FY2019 and 2020 TBS workplans
- Provide feedback for Newslines promotion
- Review 2019 user survey report
- Provide feedback on BARD flier draft
- Provide feedback on inviting a student or parent to serve on the committee
- Receive updates on NLS conference, TBS, and member activities

**Agenda**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Desired outcome</b>	<b>Time</b>
Meeting set-up, icebreaker	Randy	Understanding	10 minutes
Review FY2019 workplan	All	Feedback on results	15 minutes
Review/approve FY2020 workplan	All	Discussion/decision	20 minutes
Newslines promotion plan	All	Discussion Brainstorming	20 minutes
Biennial survey	Sue	Information sharing Feedback	30 minutes
BARD flier	All	Feedback on content and layout	20 minutes

Student or parent member of committee	All	Discussion/ Decision	15 minutes
Committee appointments	All	Discussion	15 minutes
Break	All	Lunch	30 minutes
NLS updates	Colleen/Sue	Information sharing Discussion	20 minutes
TBS updates	TBS staff	Information sharing	20 minutes
Member updates	All	Information sharing	20 minutes
Next steps	All	Decisions	5 minutes
Meeting review	All	Feedback	5 minutes

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 4, 10 am-noon Conference call.

**Present:** Dana Ard, Randy Kemp, Jeanne-Marie Kopecky, Judy Mooney, Vicki Prin, Candace Reynolds, Colleen Schowalter, Catherine Stanton, Alison Steven, Sue Walker, Lisa Watson, Rachel Welker, Travis Wilson, Nancy Wise.

### **Meeting Notes:**

Randy started off the meeting by giving a short summary of the agenda and we went around the table and everyone introduced themselves.

The first item of business was to discuss the **TBS FY2019 and FY2020 Work Plan Reviews.**

### **Collections:**

- Rating the unrated books: Idaho volunteers rated 86 books last year. A total of 786 titles were rated by the entire NLS network.

- Goal to train more studio volunteers: continues to be a challenge because it is a 6-month process requiring the volunteer to start as a reviewer and editor and move into a producer role before becoming a narrator. The last position is be a book builder. Only Colleen and two volunteers are trained to be book builders.
- Progress on updating locally produced titles: Colleen reported that with the analog to digital conversion almost completed, they will be moving on to digital to digital conversion.

### **Use of TBS by registered users:**

We discussed BARD promotion being a priority and the need to create promotional materials. Promoting Newsline is another priority.

### **Outreach to eligible audiences:**

Now that the CSR positions are fully staffed and trained, specific areas of outreach will be assigned to each CSR and workplans can be developed.

### **Outreach to libraries:**

Sue will continue to work on Library outreach. Vicki suggested that Sue and the CSRs should reach out to the library directors to ask who the point of contact person is for the library, since the directors are often too busy to dedicate time to promoting TBS.

The next item on the agenda was **Newsline Promotion.**

Dana suggested we let patrons know there are other ways of listening to Newsline rather than on the phone and computer such as on mobile or home devices like Alexa. Highlighting the unique features of Newsline such as obituaries or job and sports' listings might be a good way to promote it. Another suggestion was to promote Newsline through our TBS Newsletter, letters mailed to patrons, and emailing all those with email addresses.

From there we moved into discussing results from our **Biennial survey.**

We discussed survey results. Overall patrons were pleased with their service and there was an increase in BARD users, although 30% of respondents still do not know what BARD is and 90% of respondents don't know what Newsline is. 50% of patrons do not want multiple books on cartridges. These three areas will be our priority.

**BARD promotion** - We discussed making outreach to younger a priority. We discussed participating in more social media and converting the **BARD flyer** to a trifold brochure or something like the NLS BARD and currency reader postcard. The following changes to the BARD flyer were suggested:

- Collections formats and quantities: remove some of the statistics.
- Database functionality: remove "Tailor the screen view to preferences" and "Set a security question to reset password".
- Move "Users must be registered for TBS before registering for BARD" up to the top of page.

Challenges and issues patrons have with registering and using BARD and Multiple books on Cartridge is an issue. Some of the suggestions are as follows:

- Demonstrating BARD in Zoom meetings or some other informal type of class.
- Promoting the ease of keeping track of one cartridge rather than individual cartridges.
- Demonstrating BARD or multiple books on cartridge personally with patrons.
- BARD specific survey.
- Promoting BARD express.

**Adding a student or parent as a member of the committee.**

The consensus was that because parents are often overcommitted, a high-school or college student would be the best choice. Alison offered to help to select this student.

Expectations for student TBS Advisory committee member:

- Feels comfortable with adults.
- Confident in speaking up in a group setting as well as articulate in expressing ideas and opinions.
- Has an interest in books and reading.
- Age range for will be 15-25.
- Be willing to use TBS features such as the BARD app and Newsline.

### **Committee Appointments**

Vicki and Catherine are renewing again for another three-year term. Nancy Wise is retiring. Sue will work with Beth to find someone to take Nancy's place.

### **NLS Updates**

Colleen updated members on the NLS South and Western Conference she attended. More information is available in a 25-page report.

Other NLS updates

- Bookshare, an audio library for visually impaired people that offers synthetic narration of books, is available.
- NLS has a name change. They will be officially be changing their name from National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled and will be gradually replacing their marketing materials to reflect this new name. The new name will allow people with dyslexia to apply for the program.
- E-readers will be available in 2 years and we will need to decide if we want to store them.
- The Library of Congress is sponsoring a program where vets offer their stories to be recorded and shared with the NLS.
- The Marrakesh Treaty was adopted by the United States in February so NLS will eventually be distributing books internationally.

## **TBS Updates**

The focus for TBS has been the upcoming transition to Download on Demand (DOD) and multiple books on cartridge (MBC). TBS is also in the process of migrating to an updated system (KLAS 7.7) in preparation for this transition to DODs and MBCs. The 2020 calendar will be coming out soon and several outreach events are scheduled for the Fall.

## **Member Updates:**

**Jeanne-Marie** updated us on the ISDB first ever family event at the zoo with 200 parents and kids. Summer camp was also successful with 16 kids, ages 7-13, participating. All the positions at the school are now filled with Erin Rainey being the new Braille specialist who will work with Susan Baker. They received a \$20,000 grant to purchase books in Unified English Braille and are enthusiastic about the 3-D printer they were able to purchase.

**Dana Ard** spoke about the Snake River Valley Second Annual White Cane Celebration coming up in October. The last event had 127 attending as well as 5 legislative representatives. The next event will be at the Melaleuca Center in Idaho Falls. The next state conference is April 16-19 in Idaho Falls. There might not be a Legislative Luncheon this year. The National Federation for the Blind held their national convention in Las Vegas in July. Highlights were inspirational speakers and discussion of the Access Technology Affordability Act which is a tax break of \$2000 available to those who must purchase access technology.

**Nancy Wise** said the ICBVI now has 700 blind clients over the age of 55. The ICBVI offers support groups, events, transportation, and their low-vision store and clinic as well as site restoration program which provided 76 people with cataract surgery.

**Alison Stevens** spoke about the successful SWEP program this summer from which the ICfL recruited our summer intern, Taylor.

Her students also worked with the Bell program for elementary aged students from the ISDB. College Days was held again at BSU. The VISTA Leadership program is finishing up its first year.

**Vickie Prin** gave her update of the Eagle Public Library which now has over 600,000 in circulation and is working with an architect to accommodate their rapid growth.

**Travis Wilson** at the VA Medical Center updated us on the increase of Veterans enrolled in the Veterans Visual Impairment Program from 249 to 283 enrolled. He recently attended the Disability Conference in Tulsa, OK. And learned a great deal about available technology.

**Catherine Stanton** continues to sign people up for TBS and remarked that the braille collection at the library, although small, is helping to increase awareness of the program.

### **Next Steps**

- Colleen will explore TBS promotion through social media.
- Dana will continue to promote Newsline.
- Travis will distribute the BARD factsheet at his next event.
- Sue will work on finding a replacement for Nancy Wise.
- The TBS and ICfL staff will work on creating a BARD flyer and/or postcard.
- Dana, librarians, and ICBVI staff members will work on demonstrating how BARD works personally with patrons.
- Alison will work on recruiting a student to join the committee.
- It was decided that committee members prefer to meet in the River Room.

### **Meeting review:**

- Suggested we meet in River Room to avoid being crowded
- Liked the meeting introductions
- Timely and smoothly run agenda
- Good to share information

