

Memo

To: Montana State Library Commission

From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian

Date: August 11, 2021

Re: Network Advisory Council update

At it's August meeting the newly reformed Network Advisory Council (NAC) created a working definition of Core Services necessary for the essential operation of libraries and the success of the [Montana Library Network](#) (MLN):

Library services offered by Montana library professionals that enhance the lives of Montanans by providing access information and resources in a way that is relevant and reflective of community needs.

Using this definition, the NAC recommends the following services be considered Core Services at this time:

- Collection Management
- eResources
- Montana Cultural Resources
- Resource Sharing
- Library Programming
- Technology

The NAC appointed a subcommittee to finalize an evaluation framework that will be used by Core Services Committees to define and articulate the intended impact of each of these core services and the metrics necessary to evaluate the success of the programs and services. The NAC will use the information provided by through the evaluation frameworks to advise the Commission on matters including how to prioritize investment and how to continually improve these services and future services.

The NAC also reviewed draft bylaws which will be further refined before they approve the bylaws in November. Included in the draft bylaws is a recommendation that the NAC elect a chair and vice chair rather than relying on State Library Staff.

Dates	Steps	Participants	Status
February - April 2021	Define job description of the Council including desired knowledge, skills, and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSL Staff • Current Council • Current advisory and executive groups • Commission 	Complete
April 14, 2021 State Library Commission Meeting	Staff brings slate of Council members to the Commission for appointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSL Staff • Current Council • Current advisory and executive groups • Montana library community • Commission 	Complete
April – August 2021	Council defines success measures for the MLN and identifies final list of core services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • Montana library community • MSL Staff 	Complete
August 19, 2021 State Library Commission Meeting	Council recommends success measures final list of core services for Commission action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • MSL Staff • Commission 	On schedule
August – October 2021	Core services subcommittees formed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • Montana library community • MSL Staff 	On schedule
October 2021 – May 2022	Core services subcommittees define success for each core service, determine current and desired funding needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core services subcommittees • Council • Montana library community • MSL Staff 	On schedule
June 2022 State Library Commission Meeting	Council recommends to the Commission a library development budget based on recommendations from core services subcommittees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core services subcommittees • Council • Montana library community • MSL Staff 	On schedule