Midlothian Public Library
Technology Committee Meeting
July 20, 2016

In Attendance:
Roz Gray, Library Bd.
Ruth Becker, Library Bd.
Mary Chiz, Library Bd.
Heather McCammond-Watts, Library Director
Michelle Vanis, MPL IT Manager
Diane Cleaver, Basecamp Web Solutions

The meeting was called to order at 10:36am in Heather's office where we had access to view the web site templates and sample navigation on other web sites.

Ruth asked why there was a "Kids" tab and a "Teens" tab, but no "Adult" tab. Heather explained that all items were intended for adults, and it seemed to make less sense to call them out as a sub-group. Ruth was satisfied with this explanation.

Ruth and Roz both asked to have a "My Account" tab added next to the Catalog and Website tabs at the top of the page above the search bar. This makes it easily visible and no additional searching through navigation menus would be required.

We discussed "Responsive" web design and issues that arise when scaling pages from a desktop computer to using an iPad or phone. Ruth didn't like how Elmwood Pk. Library's website pushed some of the new material images above other more important content. Diane assured us that the website would be tested for apple and android devices, and portrait and landscape modes on all platforms. She told us that the sequencing of content can be adjusted to suit our preferences so that the most important items sequence first on smaller format devices such as tablets and phones. We would have an opportunity to provide feedback on this before the website goes live.

Heather asked if we were happy with the design "look" of the new website templates. We were all in agreement that the design equities were consistent in supporting the new logo, and that the templates were very pleasing. She also inquired if we liked the library hours bar under the main promotion ad carousel space on the homepage. We all felt this was a plus and made the hours more visible than the small hours bar at the top. Both notification bars providing library hours will remain, and a pull-out bar will be added to the right of the large Library hours bar that lists holiday closings.

Heather asked is we felt that "News" should go under the "About Us" tab. We felt that it would be helpful to have a full site map showing how Diane was thinking about organizing content under each tab, so that we could provide feedback before creating all the pages. She indicated that this was certainly possible, and she would try to have this for us in a week or so. This would give the Library Board time to review it as well and provide their feedback. Diane also indicated that she could make the "News" section be a

secondary tab next to the list of "Upcoming Events" on the right side of the page. We all liked this idea.

We discussed the green color change for the "Kids" content, and Diane indicated that she was thinking about purple for the "Teens" page. We had no opposition to these colors. She asked us if we liked the small triangle/arrows on the top tabs, and told us that they help visitor to see that there are drop-down menus to be explored. We indicated that we did like them. She also said that most websites don't include a "Home" button anymore because more web users know to click on the logo at the top of the webpage to return to the home screen.

We asked Diane about how she was thinking about the template for the Books & Media page. We discussed having stacked carousel viewers for each type of media: books, DVDs, CDs, etc. Mary showed examples from the City Library website with DVD reviews and buttons to place a hold, or add the title to a patrons watch/read list. Heather indicated that some of this functionality would be limited by the SWAN website, but it was useful to see the example.

We discussed having time to respond to the web map of content and whether there was adequate time to have patrons test drive the website and give us their feedback. Diane indicated that Indian Prairie Library had done BETA testing with patrons using a short list of items for them to find and collecting information for how long it took to locate them, as well as open feedback on navigation and design. With a go-live date of Sept. 16th, Ruth felt that we should limit responses to the board and limited staff in order to keep the project moving ahead on schedule.

We set a meeting date for Thursday, Aug. 4th at 9:30am to meet again and review the preliminary site map and resolve issues prior to the next Library Board mtg. on Tuesday, August 16th.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27am.