

Digital Inclusion Network
Wednesday, February 28, 2018
2:30-3:30
Office for Community Technology, Rivers Conference Room
111 SW Columbia St., Suite 600, Portland, OR

MEETING NOTES:

2:35 call to order

1. Introductions

- Brian McGuirk, is the new Digital Equity & Learning Librarian for Multnomah County Library. In addition to working library patrons, Brian will be devoting some of his time to revitalizing the Earn-a-Computer program in partnership with MetroEast and Free Geek.

2. Summit update

Summit date is May 10, 8:30am-4:00pm

The theme for the 2018 Digital Inclusion Summit is “Economic Opportunity: Building a digitally connected, prosperous community.” Topics to be discussed include: building a diverse workforce pipeline, the impacts of digital inequities on health outcomes, and responding to and overcoming public policy that creates barriers and inequities for marginalized communities.

The Technology Association of Oregon is hosting its annual Technology Awards celebration on the evening of May 10. Matt is coordinating outreach and promotion of the summit and celebration with TAO staff. Vailey Oehlke, Library Director, is a potential keynote speaker at the TAO celebration.

DIN member support: PNCA is hosting the summit. Open Signal and MetroEast will video record elements of the summit. There are tabling opportunities for organizations wishing to share information and resources. Contact Tyler if you are interested in tabling. Lunch and breakfast sponsors have been secured. Other organizations interested in sponsorship opportunities should contact Matt. The event is free of charge, but will require registration to attend.

DIN members are encouraged to save the date, register when the time comes, consider sharing information through tabling and to reach out to others in the community to encourage participation.

3. Digital Inclusion Week (May 7-11)

OCT staff is drafting an events calendar to share on the OCT- DEAP/DIN website (www.portlandoregon.gov/DEAP). DIN members were encouraged to keep an eye out for a Google Form to document details of special events or regularly scheduled classes. DIN members were encouraged to share project, class or initiative ideas and to solicit partnerships through the Google Group listserv.

DIN members were also encouraged to register as a ‘host’ through the NDIA Digital Inclusion Week website.

PNCA/Make+Think+Code (Nandini) asked if anyone in the DIN Group would be interested in partnering with her to do a Wikipedia edit a thon, either that week or a different week.

4. Year 2 – Progress Report Kickoff – The planning team asked DIN Lead Partners to start preparing and sharing evaluation data and stories! When preparing evaluation data, please consider addressing: “How has the DIN built capacity for your organization?”

Discussion: the group discussed methods for sharing information for the report. DIN members agreed that a Google Form is a good way for them to share information. Rebecca encouraged DIN members to participate in any way that is most convenient – i.e. email, Google Form, schedule a meeting with the planning team, etc.

DIN members were asked to submit their updates and stories by April 30.

5. Updates

Multnomah County Library is piloting after hours free Wi-Fi.

Comcast is building out their free hot spots throughout the City.

Bloomberg recently released a call for grant applicants for 2018.

Net Neutrality: There is a petition circulating to guarantee Net Neutrality at the State level on the ballot in November 2018. The rally for Net Neutrality in Oregon was a resounding success. Rally speakers included ACLU's Kimberly McCullough and Sam Pastrick from CUB. HB4155 passed the House with bipartisan support. The group asked if there are specific local elected officials they could talk to regarding the Net Neutrality bill. Rebecca said the bill appears to have good bi-partisan support, but suggested advocacy efforts focus on Republican Senators and Senator Courtney's office.

Lifeline: Lifeline is under attack at the federal level. The Library and the City have filed comments in an FCC NOI regarding proposed lifeline service roll backs. If anyone has questions regarding Lifeline and the impact on Digital Equity, please contact Rebecca, Matt or Jon.

PNCA/Make+Think+Code (Nandini) asked if the DIN could file comments as a collaboration. Rebecca stated that the time has passed to file comments.

Discussion: DIN members expressed interest in advocacy efforts as a collective group and wondered about being able to file comments in the future as a collective. Rebecca said, depending on filing timeline, which often times are short, it is possible we could draft a letter and circulate it through the Google Group for DIN members to sign on. Nandini asked for a generic statement that her organization could use.

PPS (Marita) asked if the Library and/or the City could share their comments as examples.