

# LibraryLinkNJ FY19 Virtual Town Hall Budget Meeting

June 8, 2018

## Q&A Transcript

Looking for the recording of this meeting? Both the recording and the presentation slides are available at

<http://librarylinknj.org/content/librarylinknj-town-hall-fy19-budget>

Ricardo Pino - West Milford: (11:12) Should the FY 2019 budget not be approved, what would happen on July 1, 2018? Would delivery and other services continue, seeing as how contracts with vendors have been signed? If LLNJ is a contractor who in essence exists to manage and contract out to vendors, will a new entity arise to take over that function? Why would these functions not be absorbed by the State Library and reduce redundant costs (personnel, office space, etc.)?

Jennifer Breuer: (11:12) How will the \$200K be assessed?

jeri gunther: (11:13) What is Jersey Connect and how could they impact the issue?

Ricardo Pino - West Milford: (11:13) Apologies, I typed u p ahead of time, please feel free to choose which question to answer.

Amy Babcock Landry: (11:13) What happens if the budget does not pass?

Luca Manna - PALS Plus: (11:13) Kathy - If the budget does not pass, can you elaborate on the immediate consequences, general, certainly, but specifically in terms of delivery.

Kaitlin Kehnemuyi: (11:14) How did we come to have reserves to draw upon, in the first place?

LMx Directors: (11:19) Has the LLNJ Board considered calling for a statewide Task Force to review funding and benefits for all statewide services?

Jennifer Breuer: (11:19) question from Peter Coyl, Montclair Library: How can you ask the membership to vote on the cost-share if we won't know the fiscal impact will be for individual libraries/schools?

Brandi: (11:20) Brandi Grosso Director at Vineland Public Library. Can you please explain what you meant by cost share on employee benefits?

Arlen Kimmelman: (11:23) What happens to our database access through LLNJ's EBSCO/Jersey Clicks and other discounts?

Eric Lozauskas @ BCCLS Office (8 Library Directors): (11:23) When will your cost sharing team be meeting to discuss?

Arlen Kimmelman: (11:26) I meant our discounts - sorry

Ricardo Pino - West Milford: (11:27) If LLNJ is a contractor who in essence exists to manage and contract out to vendors, will a new entity arise to take over that function? Why would these functions not be absorbed by the State Library and reduce redundant costs (personnel, office space, etc.)?

Tierney Miller: (11:27) (from Laverne) I know you are not speaking to other library-ies, but of course as LLNJ is funded by the State Library though the Network line- I think we all want to hear from the State Library about their budget and thoughts.

Edge Free PL: (11:28) Why if the LLNJ Board not consider prioritizing only providing Library Delivery Services?

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Sophie Brookover: (11:28) Thanks for the clarification!

jeri gunther: (11:29) Had you considered using some of the CE/Professional Dev funds so you can concentrate on the delivery?

Amy Babcock Landry: (11:29) If the state Library is the funder for LLNJ will advocacy efforts be targeted towards asking for funding from the state library or for asking for more funding for the state library?

Jennifer Breuer: (11:30) Samantha McCoy, west caldwell library: how much will next week's membership meeting cost?

LMx Directors: (11:31) why is the state library, as the funding organization, not part of this meeting to engage with us on this important issue and statewide services?

Dale Spindel: (11:32) Can LLNJ take a role in working with its member libraries to arrange a similar Town Hall meeting with the State Library?

Jody: (11:34) If delivery is in fact the priority for libraries, why doesn't LLNJ consider reducing \*inside\* costs instead of asking libraries to fund delivery?

Scott Davan: (11:35) While I appreciate what Kimberly is saying that there are more priorities than just delivery, it sounds as if delivery is the most important to those here

today. How do you respond to the difference of opinions between the Board's position and our positions seen today?

Eric Lozauskas @ BCCLS Office (8 Library Directors): (11:37) Daragh Oconnor - What is the approximate figure for next week's cost?

Luca Manna - PALS Plus: (11:38) If there is no budget in place (budget does not pass) will the State Library release funds to continue the operation of LLNJ?

Amy Babcock Landry: (11:39) Follow up to Luca's question, Will an austerity budget be developed prior to next weeks meeting to adopt so funding can continue?

Jennifer Breuer: (11:40) Following up on Luca's question: what about the LLNJ \$220,496 to be carried forward in the FY19 budget? Can that be used?

Jennifer Breuer: (11:44) if ti's not passed?

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Jennifer Breuer: (11:44) Sorry, I'm not being clear.

Sophie Brookover: (11:44) All membership meeting documents, for reference:  
<http://librarylinknj.org/content/librarylinknj-spring-membership-meeting-2018>

Sophie Brookover: (11:45) On it

Maureen Wilkinson: (11:46) Just a comment: while delivery is important the CE and innovation project are also very. We need to continue to eveloortant and their loss will impact the quality of library service in NJ

Scott Davan: (11:46) Has LLNJ gone back to the delivery service provider to discuss renegotiating the costs of the agreement?

Will Porter: (11:46) Is it clear to the board and the membership that delivery is not, in fact, the highest priority of all the member institutions and that the best-case scenario here represents another shift away from those institutions' priorities?

Eric Lozauskas @ BCCLS Office (8 Library Directors): (11:48) What happens if the next time delivery gets contracted, the price goes up per stop again? Thinking ahead for 2019, 2020, etc? Would TForce renew at the same rate for the next few years?

LMx Directors: (11:50) Has the LibraryLinkNJ Board made a formal request to the NJSL for increased funding for FY19 and FY20? Are there any other potential funding sources being investigated?

Jennifer Breuer: (11:52) Holly Belli, Bloomfield Library: What is the anticipated impact on LLNJ if a number of member libraries withdraw their membership from LLNJ?

Will Porter: (11:52) I suppose it's more comment than question. We keep talking about delivery, when it already represents a colossal majority of where cooperative resources go.

Ellen Callanan: (11:53) To elaborate on Will's and Maureen's points, county library systems which fund their own internal courier services, such as ours, do not rely as heavily on delivery as do individual libraries or library cooperatives without these services. For us, LLNJ's CE and professional development opportunities are important and vital.

LMx Directors: (11:54) Should LibraryLinkNJ members write to the NJSL to ask them to re-evaluate statewide priorities and increase funding for LibraryLinkNJ

Jennifer Breuer: (11:54) what about that \$200k? Won't that be impacted?

Sophie Brookover: (11:56) <http://librarylinknj.org/support>

Arlen Kimmelman: (11:56) Thank you , Kathy, Kimberly and Sophie.

Will Porter: (11:57) Thanks all

Luca Manna - PALS Plus: (11:57) Thank you

Sophie Brookover: (11:57) We'll be posting the recording of this meeting on the Town Hall page of our website shortly