

## Idaho Talking Book Service Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

10:00am – 12:00pm

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87031705398?pwd=U3FLOXB6cUliUE12aTlrR0lhcmd4QT09>

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Meeting ID: 870 3170 5398

Passcode: 246774

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/ktfnKvUx>

**Meeting Purpose:** To remain current with Talking Book Service items

### Meeting Guidelines:

- We take a statewide view on topics
- We listen as allies
- We follow the agenda
- We come away with next steps

### Desired Outcomes:

- Better understand Newslines and promote accordingly
- Receive updates from each other

**Meeting Leader:** LeAnn Gelskey

**Facilitator:** Pete Nelson

**Recorder:** Rachel Welker

Time	Agenda Item	Action	Time
10:00	Meeting set-up: agenda, guidelines, additional topics	Review Agree	5 min
10:05	Icebreaker activity - Pete	Share	5 min
10:10	Newslines Presentation – Guest Speaker, Scott White (Director of Sponsored Technology Programs, National Federation of the Blind)	Share	60 min

11:10	Q & A with Scott	Discuss Review	10 min
11:20	Brainstorm ideas for sharing Newline info with others - LeAnn	Share	10 min
11:30	TBS update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Book Club</li> <li>○ Outreach to rural care facilities and partners</li> </ul>	Share	5 min
11:35	Committee member updates	Share	15 min
11:50	Next steps	Discuss List	5 min
11:55	Meeting review	Share	5 min
12:00	Adjourn Next meeting: May 25, 2022		

**Attendees:** Catherine Stanton, Public Library Rep, Madison District; Dana Ard, National Federation for the Blind; Erin Rainey, Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind; Rachel Welker TBS Customer Service Rep and meeting recorder; LeAnn Gelskey, TBS Director and meeting leader; Marina Rose, Public Library Rep, Caldwell Public; Pete Nelson, HR Specialist & meeting facilitator, and Steve Achabal, Idaho Commission for the Blind.

**Newline Presentation from Scott White from National Federation for the Blind**

**Newline:** Newline was founded in 1995 and its first publication was USA Today. First off, who qualifies? The same people who qualify for NLS and TBS services are eligible to use Newline, so people who are Blind or Print Disabled. The easiest way to register is to send a request through NLS or local TBS. Customer Service can be reached at 866-504-7300 or [swhite@nfb.org](mailto:swhite@nfb.org).

The service includes: Breaking news, local news (for Idaho its Associated Press Idaho, Idaho Statesman, Idaho Falls Post Register), Spanish publications, international publications, magazines divided into categories, emergency weather alerts, weather forecasts, state specific channels, tv listings, advertising circulars and job listings.

Scott White from NLS offered a demonstration where he called into Newsline using his own login and walked us through the prompts. Patrons who find articles of interest can either listen to them right away or have them emailed to themselves to enjoy later (like with a recipe). There are various options for listening that include landlines, cell phones, IOS devices and even Alexa.

**Q and A:** LeAnn asked if the TBS newsletter (Connections) could be added to the Idaho channel and Scott answered “yes.” Scott will have the Content Manager work on getting our first newsletter on Newsline and show us how we can do it ourselves in the future.

Erin Rainey asked if there was a video/audio training that she could use to promote with her teachers. Scott says he can offer a 2-day presentation tailored to specific groups, which would be 1 ½ hours each day and he prefers doing it live. The best way to schedule is to contact Scott and or Jesse directly.

### **Ideas for getting Newsline information out**

- Prepare a mailing (Scott White).
- Get promotional material to go out with new patron packets. Scott has pamphlets he can send to TBS.
- LeAnn offered to participate in school or ICBVI in service workshops along with the presentation from Scott at Newsline.
- Create an Idaho Talking Book Channel on Newsline.
- Posters for public libraries.
- Encouraged the VA to promote Newsline with their users.

**TBS Update:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Book Club meeting is coming up March 30 and we are reading The Authenticity Project. Instead of calling in to participate, this meeting will be offered virtually via Zoom.

We also continue our BBB outreach and sending boxes of promotional/marketing materials to care facilities and have added Senior Centers.

### **Member Updates:**

Dana Ard/National Federation for the Blind: The NFB of Idaho convention will be held in person in Idaho Falls April 21-23. The theme is “Dream, Believe, Achieve.”

There will be a national report (NFB), vendors, a presentation on adaptive games and it will be live streamed.

Catherine Stanton/Public Library Rep. Madison district: Still helping her patrons with signing up for TBS and learning the player.

Erin Rainey/IESDB: Excited to see the Newline demonstration and taking that information back to her teachers. Will try to get a presentation of that scheduled for an in-service day.

Steve Achabal/Idaho Commission for the Blind: Referrals are starting to ramp back up. ICFBVI is currently fully staffed with rehab teachers who are trained and meeting with clients at the Commission and in client homes.

Marina Rose/Caldwell Public Library: Trying to promote and get library patrons signed up for TBS. Hoping to establish a relationship with the Senior Center that shares the Caldwell Public Library parking lot.

Travis Wilson/Veterans Administration: Currently serves 312 veterans and is running support groups for them virtually. Face to face meetings should start back up again in the next couple of months.

Pete Nelson/ICfL HR Specialist: He is the team captain for the 2022 Cycle for Independence, which is a fundraising event for the National Federation for the Blind of Idaho. It will be held in person May 21. He is putting together a team, so anyone who wants to join can let him know.

### **Next Steps:**

- Promoting Newline. Get more pamphlets/material from Scott White to share with patrons new and old.
- LeAnn will be representing TBS at the NFB Idaho convention.
- The next TBS Advisory meeting will be held May 25 and we will plan to meet in person. Jeff Stratton and Megon Egbert will give updates on the work they have been doing using ARPA funds.

### **Meeting Review:**

Pluses: Everyone was pleased with the Newline demonstration.

**Next meeting: May 25, 2022** (in person at ICfL)

Agenda items:

- ARPA staff updates.