



**WOODLANDS LIBRARY COOPERATIVE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
Thursday, August 19, 2021

**MINUTES**

**Order**

The Advisory Council meeting, held virtually, was called to order at 10:00 am by Angela Semifero, Council Vice-Chair.

**Introductions**

Introductions will be during What's Happening in Your Library? segment of the meeting.

**Agenda Approval**

It was moved to approve the agenda as presented. (Moved: Saunders, Second: Curtis. Motion: Carried.)

**Minutes**

It was moved to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2021 Advisory Council meeting. (Moved: Bell, Second: Saunders. Motion: Carried.)

**Financial Report**

Kate reported that Woodlands projected income has increased substantially because final state aid was received from the Library of Michigan.

She also pointed out that there is a link on the agenda that takes members to the financial report posted on our website for reviewing prior to the meeting.

MCLS mistakenly sent out RIDES invoices to some members. Woodlands paid MCLS directly for all our member's RIDES delivery for the upcoming year. If you receive an invoice please let Kate know, and do not pay it.

**Committee Reports**

New committees will form beginning in October. If you are interested in serving on one of the committees below, please let Kate know.

**Children & Teen Services**

Anna Curtis reported that the Children & Teen Services committee has not met due to the increased responsibilities and workload on directors because of covid.

**Continuing Education**

Angela Semifero reported that the Children & Teen Services committee has not met due to the increased responsibilities and workload on directors because of covid.

**Personnel**

Kate stated that Sara Tackett, the Personnel Committee chair, will be sending out the link to her annual evaluation in September.

**Planning and Evaluation**

The Planning & Evaluation committee will meet to discuss the draft 2021-22 budget, prior to the September Governing Board meeting.

**eResources**

The eResources committee continues to maintain the Woodlands Downloadable Library, and to test other eResources that may be beneficial to cooperative members. A few of the members attended the virtual Digipalooza, OverDrive's annual conference. OverDrive announced they will replace the OverDrive app with Libby, please let your patrons know.

**Unfinished Business**

There was no Unfinished Business for this Advisory Council meeting.

**New Business**

Kate said the Planning & Evaluation committee has had a hard time figuring out when to meet to discuss the upcoming draft budget. It will need to be reviewed before the September Governing Board meeting.

Today will be Mary Hill's last Advisory Council meeting as chair and unfortunately she was not able to attend. Angela Semifero will now assume the role of Council Chair. The council needs to select a vice-chair who will fill in to run the meetings when the chair is not available, and then will assume the Chair position in 2 years at the end of Angela's term. Anna Curtis, Eaton Rapids Area District Library, was suggested for the position, and Anna accepted.

**Discussion Topic**

There was a short discussion on if member libraries penal fines went up, stayed the same, or decreased.

**Break**

The Advisory Council did not take a 5-minute break.

**Director's Report**

- Kate stated that if there is a covid State of Emergency in any of Woodlands member's counties, we will need to continue holding our meetings via Zoom.
- Kate said she will help the Putnam District Library with their Strategic Planning this fall.
- Kate has been working on the draft 2021-22 budget.
- Kate said the United for Libraries Virtual Conference was very good and was recorded if anyone is interested in watching it. It provided great information on Friends groups.
- In July the Woodlands Governing Board lost quorum right before the meeting so we didn't meet.
- Woodlands needs to start planning for a new Strategic Plan.
- Kate requested that members submit the vendor's information, who provided good service, on the No Reservations Recommendations website at <https://nrr.ninja/>.

**What's Happening in Your Library?****Sunfield District Library**

Lisa Bell – Lisa said they have finished summer reading and school has started. The library will participate in Sunfield's festival, and will have a float in the parade. She reported that their penal fines went up. With a grant they received from the Small & Rural Libraries, they put together kits called Nature Lovers kits, which contained items to observe nature.

**Tecumseh District Library**

Susan Bach – Susan said they are back to wearing masks. Summer reading is now finished and things feel more normal. They are installing heating for a history room to provide a constant temperature for delicate materials. They will also start a seed library. They would like to use



social media for a millage campaign, and are looking for ideas from other libraries that had success.

**Waldron District Library**

Joyce Gendron – Joyce reported that they used a LSTA grant for painting classes. Their Book Worms kid's book club is successful. They participated in the Farmer's Market, and will have a book sale on Labor Day. They installed a new circulation desk.

**White Pigeon Township library**

Perri Saunders – Perri said summer reading just wrapped up. They sent out a survey to patrons in order to prepare for strategic planning. They applied to be considered for the State Librarian's Award of Excellence.

**Eaton Rapids Area District Library**

Anna Curtis – Anna said her board has reinstated that everyone in the library needs to mask up again due to higher covid cases in their area. All of their September programming will be outside or virtual. They have installed new Little Free Libraries, and they have a new air-conditioning unit. They also hired new staff for Teen & Tween programming.

**Portland District Library**

Cory Grimminck – Cory said they continue to distribute take and make craft bags. In June they used old Reader's Digest Condensed Books to make storage boxes. This month they will make beeswax food covers. They were vandalized with spray paint. This fall programming will be outside, or inside but with limited attendance.

**Branch District Library**

John Rucker – John stated that summer reading is done, and they had less than half the participation than last year. They rolled out a new logo. They had a booth at the county fair. They had significant storm damage. Their county is a covid hot spot and the board supported that staff start wearing masks, and will recommend patrons do the same. They hired a full-time Children's librarian, and just finished up a RFID inventory control.

**Bath Township Library**

Kristie Reynolds – Kristie said they are partnering with the schools and town to stay safe, and staff will mask up again. In person programs will be small and masks will be required. They are up for a millage vote, and will host an open house in their new building.

**Vermontville Township Library**

Carla Rumsey – Carla said summer reading was good this year. Programming was all in-person, but they held events in the park. With donations they purchased public computers, a new sign, and Wonderbooks.

**Clinton Township Library**

Tamara Denby – Tamara said that summer reading was the highest it's been in 10 years. Most of their animal-themed programs were held outside, and they had great coverage in the local newspaper. With an LM grant they purchased new technology and provided programming. Their Friends monthly book sale was very successful. In August programming will scale back to accommodate staff vacations. They have preschool circle art posted all over the library. Masks are not required but recommended for staff.

**Burr Oak Township Library**

Mary Ann Kennedy – Mary said summer reading was small but had great participation from the kids, and they had a float in their Heritage parade.

**Constantine Township Library**

Janice Jones – Janice announced that Jane More retired and she is now the director as of August 1st. She has hired new staff. She said they had summer reading programs outside, and for in-person story time they require masks. Staff is required to mask up when patrons are in the building.

**Hudson Carnegie District Library**

Joann Simmons – Joann said for summer reading they had a Noah's Ark workshop and Build a Bear. They had a good turnout for Kid's Yoga, and they had a presenter who is retired from the Secret Service. They had a book sale using mobile carts at the local farmer's market. They are up for a millage renewal in 2023, and have developed a new logo.

**Litchfield District Library**

Shelly Wykes – Shelly said they finished up with summer reading and had half the number of participants as usual. They had an Ark Encounter program for the end of summer reading at the school and had 81 attendees. They hope to move into their new building in October, but have a lot of supplies on back order.

**Stair District Library**

Colleen Leddy – Colleen said they had summer reading programs in small in-person groups, three groups two times a week, to maintain 6 feet apart. They had summer reading kick off on Zoom, and some parents were confused because they then assumed all programming for the summer would be on Zoom. Since they lost their local newspaper it is hurting the library's programming attendance, and they are struggling to promote events. They are looking into getting a new logo. They received a Michigan Humanities grant. Their staff has masked up, and soon they will also require patrons to as well.

**Marshall District Library**

Angela Semifero – Angela said that July felt normal again. They had an amazing summer reading program, and one of their events involved kids collecting animal trading cards from various local businesses. At the Wilder Creek Conservation Club, they had a program for kids to adopt a Beanie Baby, and had horses and turtles. They had most of their programming outside at the fairgrounds and by the circle pavilion downtown. They had to cut after school programming inside the library for September. They plan to hire a new public services assistant.

**Monroe County Library System**

Nancy Bellaire – Nancy said their staff is wearing masks and they are trying to add some evening hours back into the schedule.

**Public Participation**

There was no public participation for this Advisory Council meeting.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2021. It's very likely this meeting will be held virtually.

**Adjourn**

It was moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting at 11:10 am. (Moved: Curtis, Second: Grimminck. Motion: Carried.)



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Angela Semifero, Woodlands Library Cooperative  
Advisory Council Vice Chair