



WOODLANDS LIBRARY COOPERATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL

February 17, 2022

MINUTES

Order

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

Introductions

Cindy Stanczak – Albion District Library
Kristie Reynolds – Bath Township Public Library
Janice Jones – Constantine Township Library
Anna Curtis – Eaton Rapids Area District Library
Lise Mitchell – Grand Ledge Area District Library
Bryonna Barton – Hillsdale Community Library
Trixie McMeeking – Homer Public Library
Joann Simmons – Hudson Carnegie District Library
Angela Semifero – Marshall District Library
Nancy Bellaire – Monroe County Library System
Cory Grimminck – Portland District Library
Lu Ann Stachnik – Potterville-Benton Township District Library
Pam Ballet – Schoolcraft Community Library
Colleen Leddy – Stair District Library
Susan Bach – Tecumseh District Library
Carla Rumsey – Vermontville Township Library
Perri Saunders – White Pigeon Township Library
Lisa Hofmeister – White Pigeon Township Library
Biz Gallo – Library of Michigan
Kate Pohjola Andrade – Woodlands Library Cooperative
Laura Claucherty – Woodlands Library Cooperative

Guest Speaker

Biz Gallo, Statewide Digitization Initiatives Coordinator for the Library of Michigan, provided information to the council on the Library of Michigan's efforts in helping libraries to digitize their collections. Reasons to digitize items include better patron access, online research, and preservation of fragile items. Biz wants to make sure that all Michigan libraries are aware that the Library of Michigan has resources to help them with their projects, including linking to websites for worldwide access. She announced that a survey will be coming out about digitization and would appreciate everyone's feedback.

Agenda Approval

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

Minutes

It was moved to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2021 Advisory Council meeting. (Moved: Stanczak, Second: Saunders. Motion: Carried.)

Financial Report

The state aid funding amount for 2021-22 has not been released yet. As soon as the official census numbers are available, then state aid amounts will be announced. As soon as the Woodlands office starts to receive state aid funds, we can start sending out the Innovation grants to members.

Committee Reports

None of the committees, except the eResources Committee, are active so there is nothing to report.

eResources

Kate reported that Michigan libraries have received an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant for non-fiction digital content, and the Woodlands Downloadable Library will have a substantial increase in materials soon. The eResources Committee will be tasked with material selection from lists created specifically for this grant.

Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business for this Advisory Council meeting.

New Business

There was no New Business for this Advisory Council meeting.

Discussion Topic

The council held a discussion on the feasibility of the cooperative providing technology assistance. There are several reasons why it wouldn't work for Woodlands including large geographic area, 13 different ILS systems, and bandwidth issues in more rural communities. This was why the Technology Reimbursement program is included in the cooperative's annual operating budget.

The council also discussed how the distribution of covid test kits to patrons was going for some of our libraries.

Break

The Advisory Council did not take a break.

Director's Report

- Kate said she is working on getting caught up and will be sending out surveys for strategic planning.
- Kate said she will be providing board training for the Bath Township Public Library, and reminded members that she offers board training either virtual or in-person to all member libraries.
- Kate has been working with the Friends of Michigan Libraries.
- She is on the committee that submitted the ARPA grant application on behalf of all Michigan libraries.
- She also hopes to be able to get out and visit libraries in person in the spring.

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

Susan Bach – Susan said they are starting a 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. They had a Tiny Art Show, which was a lot of fun. They still offer grab and go bags. They have a new teen librarian, and have stepped up their teen programming to increase their teen involvement. They have adopted a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan to earmark funds for larger projects.

Eaton Rapids Area District Library

Anna Curtis – Anna said they are gearing up for the seed library and have had a lot of donations. They will be giving out bags with a variety of seeds in them to patrons. They will be hiring a bookkeeper. They are working with other Eaton County libraries on a May photo contest about Discovering Eaton County.

White Pigeon Township Library

Lisa Hofmeister – Lisa said they are working on strategic planning and updating their policies. For summer reading they will switch their concert series to Wednesday evenings this summer.

Perri Saunders – Perri said she is applying for a lot of grants. They are also looking into becoming a 501 (c) (3) entity to qualify for more grants.

Potterville Benton Township Library

LuAnn Stachnik – LuAnn reported they are wrapping up their winter reading program, and they had a Finding Nemo program that ends in the middle of March. They also have all their pre-covid programming back. They lost their Board treasurer and are looking for someone new.

Homer Public Library

Trixie McMeeking – Trixie said they finished their LED lighting conversion project and it has made a big difference in the library. They are planning for March is Reading Month. They have story time, art and STEAM programming, and a lunch program for seniors. She said she is also excited to have more children in the library again.

Hudson Carnegie District Library

Joann Simmons – Joann reported she has incorporated some of the Chamber of Commerce events into the library programming, including an inside yard sale. They continue to have Books N Brews. She also said she and the director at Clinton Township Public Library have visited each other's libraries, and also went to Stair District Library and Waldron District Library.

Portland District Library

Cory Grimminck – Cory said they are launching their seed library in a couple of weeks. The board started strategic planning with a public survey, which came back mostly positive. The board is updating the facility, including a LED lighting conversion. They are easing into in-person programming, but are still mostly distributing take and make bags. Staff is working on team building.

Hillsdale Community Library

Bryonna Barton – Bryonna said they will have a social worker available to address issues of their large homeless population. They have a new children's librarian and programming is back up and running.

Bath Township Public Library

Kristie Reynolds – Kristie said they provided every student with a library card in the fall. Their programming is returning. They just passed a millage and are starting to develop a 5-year strategic plan.

Stair District Library

Colleen Leddy – Colleen said they are providing a lot of ideas around the theme of 2/22/22, including tattoos, tutus, and double mint gum. They have their art display back on the wall featuring submissions from local high school students. They have had author visits both on Zoom and in person. They hope to be able to book an author from the MI Notable Books list.

Constantine Township Library

Janice Jones – Janice reported that next week is the voting on Twitter for their DigMichNews Grant. They've been working hard to get the word out about that. They are planning to switch their ILS to Atrium this spring. They had a pet supply collection for their County Animal Control and had wonderful participation. They've hired a Program Coordinator especially for adult programming, and have monthly programs scheduled through June. They are in-person for adult programs, but haven't returned to in-person for the kids yet.

Grand Ledge Area District Library

Lise Mitchell – Lise said she is in Germany visiting her sister, and working remotely. They are working on programming for March is Reading Month. They will continue their Library Land programming for children, and they will have a treasure hunt for the teens. They are getting ready for summer reading. They will participate in the local St. Patrick's Day parade. They have a new costumer in Grand Ledge, which provides performers and costumes including Cat in the Hat and Peter Pan. They failed to check frozen downspouts, which resulted in a leak in the library.

Marshall District Library

Angela Semifero – Angela said they are looking into becoming a 501 (c) (3) entity. They will have programming for 2/22/22 Tuesday. In January and February, they continued with their Happy Camp programming featuring mindfulness, yoga and meditation exercises. The Happy Camp Move Challenge

was to walk 10 miles, and when finished patrons received a completion badge. Macramé classes were also very popular.

Public Participation

There was no public participation for this Advisory Council meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 21, 2022 at 10:00 am.

Adjourn

It was moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting at 11:35 am. (Moved: Reynolds, Second: McMeeking. Motion: Carried.)

Angela M Semifero

Angela Semifero, Woodlands Library Cooperative
Advisory Council Chair