

Michigan Cooperative Directors Association
Meeting Minutes for June 12, 2009 Library of Michigan, Lake Huron Room. 10:00 a.m.

Attending: Bryon Sitler, Jim Lawrence, Sandra Wilson, Rick Hulsey, Sherry Hupp, Jim Pletz, Jim Seidl, Nancy Skowronski, Nancy Robertson, and Roger Mendel.

Absent: Suzanne Dees.

Guests: Sonya Norris, Library of Michigan

The meeting was called to order at 10:05.

Jim Seidl introduced Jim Pletz the new director of The Library Network. The directors introduced themselves to Jim and indicated where their cooperatives were located in the state.

Moved by Sherry Hupp, seconded by Bryon Sitler that the minutes of the April 17th meeting be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Bryon Sitler gave a Treasurer's report and indicated that \$37 had been spent on candy for the Rural Conference booth. And that the treasury has a balance of \$1,801.88.

The directors thanked Nancy Skowronski and her staff for the great graphics used at the booth. Nancy will send Jim Seidl an electronic version of the state map used in the graphics.

Three Year Plan: Suzanne was not in attendance at this meeting and with all the uncertainty around the Library of Michigan, state aid and the dissolution of HAL it was the consensus of the group to hold off discussion until a later meeting.

PLINKIT: Sonya Norris did a demo of the PLINKIT project which is a program to provide webpages for libraries based on the program done in Oregon using LSTA funds. In Michigan LSTA funds are used to provide free webpages for all types of libraries. The program is aimed at small/rural public libraries but will also be available to all types and sizes of libraries. The program will use the model used to get libraries on MeLCat with a sign-up period and an orderly program of bringing up libraries. Sonya was looking for 5 libraries to be the pilot libraries for the program and cooperative directors gave her names of libraries from their areas that might benefit from the program. Cooperatives may also use PLINKIT for their website. Sonya mentioned that the contract with the vendor has been approved and that she is scheduling meetings with groups of libraries to promote the program. Several cooperatives are already on her list.

Futuring conference: Jim S. reported that the next meeting of the planning committee is set for September 24. He was asked who serves on the committee and he indicated that he would send out the names of the committee members to the group.

Broadband Summit: The Summit was very successful. There is a need to get collaboratives established in all parts of the state and that Cooperatives can play a role in bringing various groups together and facilitate discussion.

Library of Michigan report: Nancy Robertson reported on a number of issues from the Library of Michigan.

- Judith Moore is leaving the LM Foundation to take a position at the University of Michigan.
- Jim Flury from TLN will temporarily take over the Museum Pass program while the Foundation searches for a replacement for Judith.
- MI READS program is ongoing. This year there will be a Children's Book Festival in conjunction with the East Lansing Art Show that will be the kick-off of the program.
- Park and Read Program has begun. This is a joint project with the Department of Natural Resources and LM. In addition to the initial 150 libraries in the program, it is being expanded to include more libraries.
- MEL: There will be a user survey conducted. Results of the survey will be included in the LSTA update.
- One year extension will be given to the MeL Databases.
- Learning Express subscription has been extended. Additional money from LSTA was used to do this.
- Executive Order: Nothing new to report. No executive order has been issued and nothing has been confirmed regarding the MSU proposal relative to moving the Library of Michigan.
- State aid: The 4% cut in state aid for this year will be used as the basis for next year's state aid. This means that the legislature/governor will propose cuts in addition to the 4%. At present the Senate is looking at a 15% cut on top of the 4%.

Jim Seidl reported on the May 21 budget hearing and indicated that libraries are losing money on all "fronts". Tax capture, state aid, penal fines, and reductions in taxable value.

Moved by Sherry Hupp, seconded by Nancy Skowronski, that a unanimous ballot be cast for Jim Pletz as Secretary to the Association, Motion carried.

What's happening at your Cooperative?

White Pine: Plan of Service has been approved and will go to the state librarian for approval. The Black Belt Librarian workshop will be held in October, 2009. The cooperative is working on an Overdrive group. The Fuel the Mind.org project is in full swing. Billboards were up for a month and the project includes promoting summer reading programs.

Lakeland: Plan of Service has passed and will be sent in to LM. Holland Library has put their 250 public computers on Comcast cable for \$100 a month. Data lines for the cooperative may also go on cable. Lakeland Overdrive group has 24 libraries and will go live in August. Libraries will pay \$1400 a year for 4 years. The new plan for the sorting area has been approved and will be implemented June 29. Circulation for the cooperative has increased 20% even with the loss of Grand Rapids Public Library.

Southwest Library Cooperative: Plan of Service has been approved as well as the budget for next year.

Mid-Michigan Library League: Board approved the Plan of Service and now they are waiting for the results of the member board votes. New directors are being hired for Fife Lake, Reed City and Traverse City. Holly is leaving the cooperative for a job in Arkansas.

The Library Network: Jim has been on the job for two weeks. Plan of Service has been approved. They are working on the wording for the contract with the users of the Shared System. Jim plans to meet with member libraries within the next 90 days. He is empowering staff to assist in building the budget and wants the cooperative to be positive upbeat force in the area. **Suburban Library Cooperative:** They are still working on integrating the Library for the Blind in their operation. The RFID project is rolling along. They are looking at strategic planning in the near future.

Northland Library Cooperative: The Plan of Service has been approved and the cooperative is negotiating with a person to be the part-time director. A mini rural conference is being planned for next spring. Sonya Norris will do a workshop on Social Networking sometime in September.

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative: Four candidates were interviewed and the board selected a person to offer the position. As soon as negotiations are complete the name will be announced. The Plan of Service is approved and awaiting approval by a majority of the member libraries. They have 350 performances scheduled for next summer reading programs. 40 performances for the May tour of libraries utilizing the talents of The Storytellers was a great success. Sonya Norris is a great workshop for the cooperative in June on Social Networking. Sonya will also do a presentation on PLINKIT>

Woodlands: Plan of Service has been approved by LM. A Zing Train workshop drew 200 people. A workshop on LEAN is planned, doing multiple jobs to save money. Pension plans may need revisions. Ameriprize (SIMPLE retirement) sent Jim 70 pages of documentation that needed to be updated. Woodlands lost a library to Southwest and gained a library this past year.

Detroit: DPL is involved with the Mid Summer Nites in Mid Town program. Thursday June 18 DPL will be the featured site. The Hype Teen Center is one year old. The attendance at American Girl Doll Tea Parties has been tremendous. She recommended this as a very popular program.

Suburban Library Cooperative: RFP on a Strategic Planning Consultant has been sent out. There is a Cooperative-wide In-Service training planned for two days in September; entitled "Healthy Living" Macomb County Library materials have been dispersed. 100,000 volumes went to Harrison Township.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Our next meeting will be August 28, 2009, 10 a.m. in Albion.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Mendel
Secretary