

# Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative Council Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, October 19, 2006

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** 305 Oak Street  
Paw Paw, MI 49079

## 1. Call to order:

President Judy Smith called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

### A. Roll Call: (Attendance was taken from sign up sheets)

The following members from public libraries were present:

Ann Perrigo	(Allegan)	Dina Reilly	(Lincoln Township)
Susan Jerkatis	(Allegan)	Sue Jewel	(Lincoln Township)
Katherine Smith	(Berrien Springs)	Mary Kynast	(Maude Preston)
Kristina Knezic	(Berrien Springs)	Bonnie Kliss	(New Buffalo)
Judy Smith	(Buchanan)	Julie Grynwich	(New Buffalo)
Mary Lysy	(Buchanan)	Teresa Stannard	(Parchment)
Jennifer Ray	(Cass)	John Mohney	(Paw Paw)
Tim Wiggins	(Cass)	Lawrence Kapture	(Portage)
Meg King-Sloan	(Comstock)	Kay La Pierre	(Richland)
Evelyn Holzwarth	(Dowagiac)	Gretchen Evans	(Sodus Twp.)
Donna Kowalewski	(Galesburg)	Erik Nieman	(Three Oaks)
Shirley Kasson	(Galesburg)	Hannah Noble	(Three Oaks)
Ann Rohrbaugh	(Kalamazoo)		
Chris Roussell	(Lawton)		
Marian Pfister	(Lawton)		

The following members from other library types were present:

Judith Vanderweg	(Hackett Catholic Schools)	Dennis Kreps	(Kalamazoo Institute/Arts)
Judy Bosshart	(Davenport University)		

Present from SMLC:

Gail Powers-Schaub

Claudia Spulick  
Susan Vermeulen

Guests

Senator Ron Jelinek.  
Robin James (KIA)

Susan Eckhardt (KIA)  
Amy Lehman (KIA)

## **2. Minutes of July 13, 2006 Council meeting:**

Dina Reilly moved that the minutes of the July 13, 2006, Council meeting be approved. Evelyn Holzwarth seconded and the motion carried.

## **3. Financial reports**

The monthly cash statement through September 2006 will be filed for audit.

## **4. Introduction of guest speakers.**

State Senator Ron Jelinek spoke about the importance of libraries, and current legislation pending. He invited members to feel free to contact him, whether to express opinions over legislation or to invite him to special events.

Susan Eckhardt, assisted by Amy Lehman from the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, discussed programs that they can bring out to libraries, including hands-on arts programs for children, and portable art exhibits.

## **5. Committee Reports**

### **A. Legislative Committee**

Gail reported for the Committee that this year they will be concentrating on tax capture and abatement issues, and consequences for libraries and co-ops of the elimination of the SBT.

### **B. TAG Committee**

Chair Christina Knezic shared that when the Committee met in July, topics discussed were: changing over to MelCat, OCLC requests, and Agent problems.

### **C. Personnel Committee**

Ann Rohrbaugh reported that the Personnel Handbook has been updated and approved by the Board. Gail's six-month evaluation is complete, and a nominating committee has put forth a slate of officers for Council's vote.

### **D. Budget and Finance Committee**

Gail reported that the Finance Committee is delighted to announce that the Cooperative ended the year with a \$3.42 balance!

### **E. Sunshine Committee—Donna Kowalewski**

Donna sent a congratulations card to Ann Greene on her 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Director at Eau Claire.

### **F. Continuing Education**

Gail reported that in looking at the Needs and Services survey the committee has decided to schedule only two training events per month, and to hold them as scheduled even if very few register. Small committee meetings, and workshops up to about twelve people will continue to be held at the headquarters building.

### **G. Multitype**

Dennis Kreps invited representatives from public libraries to join the Multitype Committee. The charge of the committee is to foster communication among all types of libraries within the Cooperative, not just the non-publics. If you are interested in serving please contact Dennis.

## **6. Old Business**

Gail and Judy both thanked the 04-06 Board members for their service during a difficult time in the Cooperative's life. Gail presented each retiring member with a gift and an official resolution honoring them.

The incoming Board for 2006-2008 is as follows:

<u>Library</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Three Oaks (05-07)	Erik Nieman
Buchanan (05-07)	Judy Smith
Comstock (05-07)	Meg King-Sloan
Kalamazoo (05-07)	Ann Rohrbaugh
Eau Claire (06-08)	Ann Greene
Watervliet (06-08)	Lois Hartman
Dowagiac (06-08)	Evelyn Holzwarth
Portage (06-08)	Lawrence Kapture
Cass (06-08)	Jennifer Ray
Hackett Catholic Schools (05-07)	Judith Vanderweg
Lake Michigan College (05-07)	Diane Baker

## **7. New Business**

### **A. 2006-2007 Budget**

The proposed budget as prepared by the Budget and Finance Committee shows a positive balance at the end of next fiscal year. The format has changed with the implementation of the new bookkeeping software, QuickBooks. The budget, and monthly reports, should be easier for members to read and understand, thus making the Cooperative's finances more transparent.

Gail is negotiating the final lease agreement with the Van Buren Intermediate School District. Assuming that all goes well, the projected move-in date for the ISD is October 23. The ISD has offered the Cooperative the use of its training facility in Lawrence to hold larger workshops and events. This means that we will not need to remodel the Cooperative's headquarters building in order to accommodate large groups.

Katherine Smith moved to accept the 2006-2007 budget as presented. Dina Reilly seconded and the motion carried.

### **B. 2006-2007 Board**

Anne Rohrbaugh, representing the nominating committee, brought forth the following slate of Board officers for Council approval.

President: Erik Nieman  
Secretary: Ann Greene

Vice President: Jennifer Ray  
Treasurer:: Evelyn Holzwarth

Katherine Smith seconded this slate, and Council approved.

### **B. Director's report**

Gail presented a power point program on the results of the member survey done this summer. She also reported that the Cooperative has two copies of the DVD of the Basic Training for Trustees program. It is available for loan—contact Susan!

### **C. Task Force on the Future**

John Mohny and Evelyn Holzwarth have been commissioned to lead a task force to think about the future of the Cooperative. John reported first on the challenges facing Coops in these times when it feels like so many of the traditional services are being taken over at the state level. Evelyn shared the research she has done on the background of Coops and what the law has to say about them. It appears that Coops are not going away, they will just be reworked. Now is the time to consider what we would like our Coop to be in the future. Contact Evelyn if you want to participate.

## **7. Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned by President Smith at 8:06 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by Ann Perrigo, Secretary]