

Mid-Michigan Library League
Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes – September 22, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM with 17 in attendance.

Introductions were made around the room.

There was no public participation or communications. There were no additions or changes made to the agenda.

Announcements: Welcome to Leland, Michigan. A menu for lunch was passed around the room.

Old Business:

- **2010-2011 State Aid** status update –The library of Michigan has “processed” all the payments of the regular state aid. The Treasury Department is issuing the checks in batches. Most Libraries have now received their state aid.
- **2011-2012 State Aid** -The State of Michigan budget has been approved with a 6.8% reduction in State Aid to Libraries. Supplemental payments have been approved but will be folded into the regular State Aid payments. Population numbers from the 2010 census will be used for the 2011-2012 Fiscal year to determine the populations in library service areas. Kathy Webb is working on certifying the populations for libraries for use in the Annual Reports to the state.
- **Group Movie License** – MMLL is still gathering information of active service populations for submission to Movie Licensing USA . The cost for each library will be based on active card holders.

New Business:

- **MMLL Budget for 2011-1012** – The budget for MMLL that will be approved today by the MMLL Board of Trustees will be an estimate. Although we know the amount approved by the legislature , MMLL’s population figures are being revised and we really won’t know the amount of expected state aid we will get. Overall, population for the MMLL area increased.
- **Election of Advisory Council Chair.** Nominations were opened and Chuck Haemker of Manistee was nominated. Chuck’s nomination was moved by Marjorie Porter and seconded by Denise Schmidt. Chuck Haemker was elected by voice vote .
- **Summer Reading Program** updates. Libraries have had successful programs, events, this year. Many businesses help promote Summer Reading Programs b y offering prizes. Very successful events included a tie dye session (Big Rapids) , a presenter in African garb (Houghton Lake) and story times in Spanish to reach that segment of the population (Peninsula Community)
- **Roundtable**-libraries reported on current events:

- **Leland – Sylvia Merz reported** --The Overdrive service is getting started to be used. A partnership with schools is being tried for the Overdrive service. Looking at changing from a township library to something else. Summer Reading was busy.
- **Leelanau** –Deb Stannard reported having speakers and adult programs. Using local storytelling talent. Getting pre-schoolers year around. Had a dog parade with Clifford the Big Red Dog. Gave away free Clifford books. Looking at getting a handicapped bathroom.
- **Reed City**—Heather Symon reported that summer reading good attendance and used reading incentives. Local businesses donated gift certificates. The incentives kept them coming back. Budget has dropped and penal fines are down. The townships don't want to pay. Their lease is expiring and they need a new building.
- **Leroy**—Denise Schmidt reported attendance was down since school has started. They have applied to the Reinhardt foundation for new computers.
- **Peninsula Community**—Donna Hornberger reported lots of summer visitors at the reading programs. Book sale raised \$2,000. They rent space from the school.
- **Fife Lake** – Julie Kitner reported that Friends have sponsored a book sale. They are trying to get everyone on a summer reading program. Adult usage has increased now that school is back in session. They are having a special program on ghost hunters around Halloween.
- **Benzie Shores**—Helen Dewey reported that Kindle and Overdrive are now cooperating.
- **Darcy Library of Beulah** – Helen Dewey reported the transition to Evergreen went well, easy to catalog. Quick reports. Printer interface has been a struggle. MCLS –reports function not very good.
- **Betsie Valley** –BV and Crystal mountain raising funds. Summer reading program is county wide. More attendance that usual. No kickoff held.
- **Manistee** – Chuck Haemker reported that to balance the budget the staff has been taking furlough days. One day per week for the period of Julie thru September. Penal fines were up somewhat. Overdrive didn't work with library's automation system. They need to buy the upgrade to the software. Phase 1 of master plan has finished. Merit broadband group is trying to work with Manistee to get them to sign up. Non-resident fees will be implemented. Friends are in the old house behind library and do 6 used book sales per year.
- **Kalkaska County** – James Hibler reported that they had a pretty good summer reading program. They used several performers –Drum Unity, Kalamazoo Nature Center. They had a Disc Golf demonstration for teens that was very successful. The Fall season has not slowed down. They have reorganized the teen and childrens room. They have a new employee with tech skills to work

with youth. They are having 4 authors, adult and then some teen authors. Increasing their marketing.

- **Shelby** – Tiffany Haight reported that summer reading was busy and it has not slowed down with fall. Sally Diepen has retired. They have started School Library visits. They are having a open house targeted to the Hispanic population.
- **Pathfinder** – Bonnie reported a very busy summer program. They received a Reinhardt grant for new heating and cooling. They are going to have a Wi, Zumba Dance. They are supporting the food pantry with a food donation in lieu of fines.
- **Ewart** – Lilas reported that they had a great summer reading program. They are trying to do some fundraising events to offset drops in revenue.
- **Benzonia** – Marjorie Porter reported that the busy fall season has started. They are holding their popular used jigsaw puzzle sales. A Murder Mystery is coming up soon. And, they are starting a younger book discussion group and getting some younger volunteers at the library. They have been having some problems with RIDES delivery—skips and no-shows.
- **Bellaire** – Mary Edens reported that summer reading did not have a good turnout.
- **Helena Township Library** – Mary Edens reported that Helena Twp is looking at forming a district library.
- **Central Lake** – Dick Williams reported that they have started a teen book club this summer that will continue. They have their Catalog online. And, they are doing an inventory for the first time. Launched a strategic planning process. Looking into the need for a 501c(3) status for the friends group.
- **Suttons Bay** – Virginia Roberts reported that they have renovated the main floor and it was finished by the beginning of summer. Moved everything with volunteers. Summer reading went well, when entertainment cancelled they used local puppeteer. Holding a volunteer thank you dinner.
- **Houghton Lake** – Donna Alward reported that they had their biggest summer reading program ever. Crazy busy all summer. 4-6th grade battle of the books is going great and this is their 7th year.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon. The next Advisory Council meeting will be held on November 10, 2011 in Cadillac, Michigan.

