

Mid-Michigan Library League Board of Trustees

Thursday November 18, 2010

Present: Helen Dewey, Lisa Leedy, Mary Edens, Dale Priester, Sally Diepen, Jeanette Fleury, Jan Manley, and Director James Lawrence.

Absent: Dolores Bolyard (excused), Donna Bronkema

Guests: Advisory Council attendees

Call to Order:

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 11:27 by Chair Jeanette Fleury following the Advisory Council meeting.

Roll Call and Introductions: Seven Board members present. Introductions were done during the Advisory Council meeting. Lisa Leedy was welcomed to the Board as the new Trustee for Group 3.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the Sept 23, 2010, meeting were accepted (Motion by Manley/Edens).

Public Participation and Communications:

The Nov 10 email from State Librarian Nancy Robertson was discussed. Due to the Herrick District Library's challenge of the State Aid Rules, the court decision in favor of Herrick, and the state filing an intent to challenge and a request for a stay, state aid applications by libraries will not be processed at this time.

The Foster Swift document "Public Library Successfully Challenges State Aid Rules" was handed out.

Nanette Miller of the Elk Rapids District Library suggested that MMLL Board and Advisory Council meetings be combined regularly on a date other than the 2nd Thursday of the month (when her Board meets). This item will put on the January agenda for the MMLL Board, and it was suggested that it also go on the Advisory Council agenda for January. The MMLL Board needs adequate time to meet. The Advisory Council meeting often includes an informative program.

Approval of Agenda: The letter from Richard Butler and Sandra Wilson asking co-ops to support the Herrick suit as amicus was added to New Business.

Financial Reports and Approval of Bills:

Ryan Howell of Baird, Cotter and Bishop, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, reviewed the annual audit. For added internal control, he recommended that a Board member signature go on debit card purchases and reimbursements.

Laptop repairs were needed when the units wouldn't accept a large number of needed updates to Windows Vista. The availability of the laptops for loan to member libraries (for classes and programs) will be mentioned again on the MMLL Listserv.

The Monthly Reports and Purchase Journals for Sept and Oct were accepted by the Board by acclamation after a motion by Priester/Diepen.

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee met with the Director to update the 2010/11 Budget.

Personnel Committee Report: The Personnel Committee has not met.

Director's Report:

James Lawrence, Director, handed out a written report, which is on file. He discussed topics in the report. After revisions, the report will be posted on the MMLL Listserv.

The Signature page of the Annual Report to the Library of Michigan has a new section which has surprised some. A sample was handed out. The library signers must "certify that state aid funds were used for expenses that are consistent with at LEAST ONE of the purposes AND ONE of the priorities" of the LSTA Act.

Library service areas were reported to the Library of Michigan. MMLL has no "unserved" areas.

The MLA Public Policy Summit was interesting, especially the presentation by the House Fiscal Agent.

Family Health Insurance was contracted for one employee. Dental insurance is being sought.

MMLL web page updating will be done by an independent contractor.

Unfinished Business:

Member library service areas were discussed earlier in the meeting.

New Business:

State Aid - FY 2011 was discussed earlier in the meeting.

2010/2011 Budget Revision:

The proposed budget adds funds to Personnel Services for a part-time (no benefits) employee to assist with office work. Hiring will be delayed at least until the uncertainty about State Aid payments is resolved favorably. Fringe Benefits were increased to pay for health insurance. Motion by Diepen/Edens to accept the budget revision as presented. Six in favor and one opposed. Passed.

MMLL Board Officer Elections

Motion by Manley/Leedy to re-elect the current officers. Discussion: Bylaws state that officers serve a term of one year, and no member shall hold the same office more than twice in succession. Motion passed by acclamation.

Officers are: Chairman Jeanette Fleury, Vice Chairman Mary Edens, Secretary Helen Dewey, and Treasurer Sally Diepen.

Herrick suit - amicus curiae brief: An email from Sandra Wilson at Lakeland Cooperative asked other Cooperatives to join. Motion by Edens/Priester to not join the lawsuit as a friend. Passed by acclamation.

Trustee Comments:

Benzonia Murder Mystery Afternoon: Friends of Benzonia Public Library raised over \$1100 and had fun with the event.

Charlevoix Public Library: Antrim and Kalkaska librarians met at the beautiful and impressive library.

Committees: Members of the Advisory Council are invited to serve on the Personnel and Finance Committees.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned about 12:30 p.m.

Helen Dewey, Secretary of the Board