

MMLL Youth Services Committee

February 21, 2022 | 10:00 AM

Meeting held via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Emily Garland (Mason County District Library), Susie Gray (Hart Area District Library), Cindi Place (Bellaire Public Library), and Sarah Welch (Big Rapids Community Library)

Agenda:

1. Introduction
 - a. Sarah Welch began the meeting at 10:05 AM
2. National Poetry Month
 - a. Cindi Place
 - i. Place will be having a local poet, Leland James, present in April at their library. He has visited before and done programming for them. This program is for YA, ages 15+.
 - ii. Blackout Poetry – a page of text is given to attendees and words are blacked out, leaving a poem behind.
 - iii. Poetry in the Stacks – where book titles are rearranged to make a poetic verse.
 - b. Susie Gray
 - i. Shared two poems with the group. “Betty Botter” by Carolyn Wells and “Mother Doesn’t Want a Dog” by Judith Viorst. She recited them both, and they were a hit!
 - c. Emily Garland
 - i. Programming for April is still in the works.
3. Teen Spaces
 - a. Making a space just for teens is important. How can we do that?
4. Programming
 - a. Angela Fischer (Manistee County Library) shared programming via email.
 - i. A new favorite book: The Littlest Yak by Lu Fraser. It’s wonderfully cute images and great, meaningful message are basically everything Fischer looks for in a storytime read. Highly recommends it.
 - ii. Introduction to Stargazing (kids of all ages). Fischer creating a take-home program using a pair of x7 magnification binoculars and a slew of information to aid in discovery. Fischer learned a lot by attending a webinar hosted by “Girls STEAM ahead with NASA” – resources can be found here: <https://universe-of-learning.org/resources/projects/girls-steam-ahead-with-nasa>
 - iii. Snow Candles (for older kids and teens)
 - b. Cindi Place is having a Mini Art Show
 - c. MiLibraryQuest
 - i. Cindi Place gives a prize of a shoe design from either Converse, Van’s, or Nike. Place is also leading a Zoom meeting on March 12 for teens to

attend so they can finish the MiLibraryQuest for winter. So far the numbers are low this year.

- d. Cindi Place discussed Bellaire's cross-generational reading program; they will be reading "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio. Alternate titles mentioned were "Fighting Words" and "The War That Saved My Life" by Kimberley Brubaker Bradley.
5. Spring Institute
 - a. Some members of the committee are attending. We made plans to connect so we can meet up in person. Sarah Welch will reach out to the other member libraries to see if anyone else is interested.
6. No More Wandoo
 - a. Wandoo Reader is no longer offered but the Library of Michigan will be bringing ReadSquared to the table. There is a webinar on this topic in early March, so librarians can find out more about how to use it as a Summer Reading online platform.
 - i. Sarah Welch has used it on the patron side, and it ran better than Wandoo.
7. Ideas for next month
 - a. Sarah Welch will bring her Murder Mystery Kits to share
 - b. More poetry ideas will be given if anyone has any
 - c. Summer Reading Program
8. The meeting ended just after 11:00 AM
9. Next meeting is March 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM – via Zoom