

MMLL Advisory Council Meeting
October 12, 2023 @ 2:00 pm
Meeting notes

1. Call to order, Introductions

On the Zoom call, participants included: Tracy Logan-Walker (Cadillac), Sarah (Marion), Eric Smith (Mason County), Cindi Place (Bellaire), Sherma Horrock (Richland), Justine Peterson (Seville), Jean Gaskill (Surrey), Julie Prenata (Leelanau Township) and Jennifer Balcom (MMLL Director)

2. Director's Report

- **Annual Meeting Feedback** - Nearly 70 people attended. Survey went out following the event. Around 20 surveys were returned. High ratings for the event overall. Survey feedback indicated many participants would have liked to see more time for table talk discussions and/or poster sessions. It was suggested that next year Board Members for individual regions be introduced, that the committee consider giving Coop Awards recognizing library excellence, and that the annual conference give away could potentially include MLA or Spring Institute.
- **Google Analytics for Ploud Libraries** – For libraries interested, Emergency Geek can assist Ploud libraries with embedding Google Analytics into their website. Maybe be done remotely.
- **Fiscal Year starting over for Tech Support and Legal Reimbursements**
- **Mini Grant Program applications will roll out in November**
- **Hotspots** – ECF funding for Hotspots will end December 31st. Libraries who currently offer hotspots will need to make decisions if they wish to continue the hotspot lending program through their respective library budgets
- **Book Page** – The Coop is currently receiving 50 extra copies of Book Page. If your library is interested in samples, please let Jennifer know.
- **Libraries and Public Notices** – Libraries must follow Open Meeting Acts laws which include putting public notices in the paper for annual budget hearings. They must also pass annual resolutions for medical insurance contributions.

3. FY 2023 Committees

- **eResources Committee** (David, Tracy, Cindi) – no report
- **Maker Team** (Mark, Sarah, David) – no report – there is 2K in the FY 24 for maker items
- **Youth Services** (Sarah) – Monthly Zoom meetings to resume in November
- **Continuing Education** – Currently looking for volunteers
- **Mini-Grants** (Kathleen, Laura) – No report

4. Specific topics

- **Up North Digital Magazines** – MMLL spent 35K on UND magazines. Pretty good usage numbers. Discussion held over whether or not to renew. Some libraries expressed their members prefer digital resources. Some indicated they have little money for paper magazines as the UND collection was helpful.

- **Township / Municipal Relations** – Many member libraries are struggling with contract renewal with local townships. Township do not always understand library law or how libraries are funded. The Coop would like to offer assistance to member libraries in educating local government about libraries as well as cultivating positive relationships. The need for resources was discussed.

5. Library Reports

- Cadillac – Rosie the Riveter and Claire Dahl program well attended. The 4th Horror Lit Fest will be held celebrating all things horror. Ghost stories will be read by candlelight.
- Marion – Sarah reported Angela Boullely’s author visit had an excellent turnout. Pictures of the event are available on Facebook.
- Mason County – Mason County is offering a discussion group program: Cairns and Beacons. Discussion led by local Philosophy Professor.
- Bellaire- Bellaire also reported that Angie Boullely’s visit was well received by the community. Bellaire will also offer a Festival of Stories program featuring professional storytelling and storytelling around food, which will tie into a community cookbook project. A poetry workshop will also be held on October 28th.
- Richland Township (Vestaburg)– Book discussion group will meet on November 17th to discuss Marmee by Sarah Miller.
- Surrey Township – Surrey has been working on their State Aid report and is looking to update their door counter/people counter and is looking for tech recommendations.
- Leelanau Township- Green Home Solutions program featuring climate change topics. Leelanau County Read is bringing in Will Kent Kruger in May 2024.
- Seville Township – Fall with Fine Arts program being offered at Seville, featuring artists such as Van Gogh, Matisse, and Picasso. A vampire craft program will also be offered at the end of the month.

Next meeting:

- Thursday, November 9, 2023 – Annual Meeting