

Mid-Michigan Library League
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Aug. 22, 2024
Mid-Michigan Library League Offices
10:00 a.m.

Call to Order: Lois Langenburg, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Call to Order: Amanda McLaren (Group 2); Tracy Logan-Walker (Group 3); Diane Eisenga (Group 4); Lois Langenburg (Group 6); Jean Gaskell (Group 8)

Members Absent: Mary Peterson (Group 1); Eric Smith (Group 5); Valerie Church-McHugh (Group 7); Justine Peterson (Group 9)

Also Present: Jennifer Balcom, Director, MMLL

Approval of Agenda: M/S Logan-Walker/McLaren to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: M/S Eisenga/McLaren to approve the minutes from May 16, 2024 Board Meeting as presented. Motion passed.

Public Participation and Communications: Member McLaren spoke for the Advisory Council. She related that the August 8, 2024 meeting was very successful.

Financial Report: The Director noted a mistake in the purchase journals. Emergency Geek was double paid for a visit to Surrey Township Library. Both the co-op and the library paid for this visit. The check was issued on 7/1/24 for \$114.63. Jennifer will work with Emergency Geek to issue a credit to make up for the double payment.

M/S McLaren/Eisenga to approve the purchase journals from 5/24, 6/24 and 7/24. Roll Call: McLaren-Aye; Logan-Walker- Aye; Eisenga-Aye; Langenburg-Aye; Gaskell-Aye

M/S Langenburg/Eisenga to accept the Financial Reports for 5/24, 6/24 and 7/24. The motion passed.

Director's Report: Director Balcom discussed the ThinkSpace conference in Mackinaw City. She attended some very interesting sessions on library architecture and future proofing libraries through design.

The Library Co-op Directors will be meeting for a retreat.

The Michigan Library Association is starting a podcast to highlight library workers and how they came to work in the profession. Each episode will be 25-30 minutes long. If a library has a staff member with an interesting story, they are encouraged to reach out to MLA.

The MMLL is planning a series of online Canva office hours so that staff members can ask for assistance with any of their Canva questions.

The MMLL is exploring the idea of a talk by Karl Butterer, labor law specialist with Foster, Swift, and Collins.

Committee Reports:

Finance: The Finance committee met in July. A draft budget has been submitted to the MMLL Board. There are few changes.

Personnel: No meeting/report

Old Business:

MMLL Bank Changes and Direct Deposit- The new account with Huntington has been set up. The Director is waiting for checks for the new account to arrive. Jennifer is waiting for old check to clear the 5/3 account before closing it.

New Business:

Annual Meeting- The Annual meeting will be held Sept. 19 at Crystal Mountain. 40 people have registered for the meeting so far.

MITTEN Grant- 13 million has been made available for digital literacy across the state. The grant divides the state into nine regions. MMLL member libraries fall into three different regions with the majority in Region 2. The Director shared an online survey intended to gather data about services currently available on this subject and areas of concern. Region 2 libraries may be contacted about money to help support their digital literacy efforts. The Director of MMLL and the Northland cooperative have been asked to help administer this grant.

MMLL Office Lease- The current lease runs through May 2025. The Director spoke with the landlord. He has proposed a new three year lease with increases to the rent of 3% every year. Jennifer is gathering data about other options. If a library has space for records and for Jennifer to work, she is willing to discuss that possibility with the board.

2025 Plan of Service- The EAP contract runs out on Oct. 1. The Director will gather information if a library wants to continue the plan for their staff. The Board also discussed the Advisory Council and it's roll. Does the membership want to restructure this by creating a monthly Director discussion group and then offering a quarterly Advisory Council meeting to respond to MMLL Board concerns? The idea brought up some legal concerns and Jennifer will contact the MMLL lawyer with questions.

Affiliate Membership Policy- The board discussed the Affiliate Membership Policy and the need to consistent and clarifying language in the document.

Public Comment: None

Advisory Council Comments: None

Board Member Comments:

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 12:00 p.m.