

**Mid-Michigan Library League
Director's Report
March 2022**



Administrative:

- FY22 Board members, groups they represent, year term ends:
 - Group 1 – Cindi Place (23)
 - Group 2 – Debra Greenacre (23)
 - Group 3 – Tracy Logan-Walker (23) - **Secretary**
 - Group 4 – Diane Eisenga (22) - **Chair**
 - Group 5 – Eric Smith (24)
 - Group 6 – Lois Langenburg (22) – **Vice-Chair**
 - Group 7 – Valerie Church-McHugh (22) - **Treasurer**
 - Group 8 – Sarah Welch (23)
 - Group 9 – Patty Rockafellow (23)

See MMLL [Board page](#).

- Advisory Council
 - FY22 Chair – Cindi Place (Bellaire). See MMLL [Advisory Council page](#).
 - The group is meeting the second and fourth Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. via Zoom.
 - Committees of the Advisory Council for FY22: <https://www.mml.org/board/advisory-council/ac-committees>.

State Aid and New Population Data:

- Library of Michigan has finally been able to send out the new census population figures for all library service areas and also the unserved areas of the state. Individual messages have gone out to all member libraries with the breakdown of their service areas. MMLL has received an update of all populations and an estimate of the density payments.
- One member library changed class size because of the 2020 Census: Pathfinder Community Library, which is now a Class 3. Reed City Area District Library had a change in class size unrelated to the census because of a service contract termination. They are now a Class 2 library.
- **The first State Aid payments are going out now, at \$.243990 per capita.**
- The final payments will most likely be made with a different per capita amount, as there are variables that often change, but we have a budget amendment for Board approval that updates our income from State Aid, using the spreadsheet data provided by Kathy Webb from Library of Michigan.

Trustee Information:

- Library of Michigan trustee resources: www.michigan.gov/librarytrustee
- Trustee Times (<https://lnks.gd/2/bDdtp3>) is sent directly to your trustees – contact Joe Hamlin at hamlinj2@michigan.gov if you need to add/change trustees on his list.
- See [Book Challenges, Censorship, and Michigan Public Libraries](#), authored by Clare Membiela. Also see ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom webinar [handouts HERE](#).
- Make sure you know your library's establishment type: [Michigan Library Establishment Types](#) – this dictates your Board establishment and legalities of operation.
- United for Libraries (ALA trustee division – resources provided to Michigan library trustees by Library of Michigan) – new login process: Visit <https://www.ala.org/united/> and click on Statewide Access-Find Your State button at the top of the page. Scroll down to the Michigan section. Either login or register for your membership account. Once you login you will find several squares for each class or session recording.

Continuing Education:

- The FY22 CE committee members are: Tiffany Haight (Shelby Area District Library) and Debra Greenacre (Manistee County Library). (Other committees of the Advisory Council are [HERE](#).)
- If you have an idea for a speaker or program for all of MMLL, let us know!
- The Library of Michigan has an online CE [Calendar here](#) and webinar [Archive here](#).
- The MMLL Youth Committee is meeting on the third Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. See the [Youth Services page](#) on the MMLL website.

eResources:

- Up North Digital currently has 32 of the 36 MMLL members participating, plus one affiliate – Missaukee. Non-participants are Chase, Mancelona, Walkerville, and Wheatland. eMagazines were added for the whole consortium in 2022. See the MMLL website page for [Up North Digital](#).
- Our language resource purchased by MMLL for the whole cooperative, Transparent Language Online, is for all MMLL member patrons, point to <https://library.transparent.com/westmichiganmi/>. On the MMLL website (<https://www.mml.org/a/transparent-language-online>) there is a link to archived training plus flyers and bookmarks with the URL for patrons that can be printed locally.
- The eResources Committee for FY22 (Cindi Place/Bellaire, David Diller/Glen Lake) will continue discussing and prioritizing needs for opt-in discount groups for which MMLL pays the vendor and then invoices the participating members. The group also will consider additional resources that could be provided as a service of the cooperative in coming fiscal years, as part of the Plan of Service. Currently, the cooperative provides [Transparent Language Online](#) to all members for their patrons to use.

Grants:

- The FY22 Grants Committee is Tracy Logan-Walker/Cadillac, Kathleen Rash/Hart, and Laura Marion/Missaukee. First round grant applications have been received and are under review
- In Round One FY22 Library Service Enhancement & Mini-Grant Program, 13 applications were funded for \$10,817. Round Two applications are due April 8, 2022. We have \$20,500 in the budget for grants. See <https://www.mml.org/a/grants>
- The LSTA ARPA grants are in process. For the MI-83 TLC Kits grant, 26 of our members and one affiliate received equipment. See <https://www.mml.org/a/grants/arpa-capacity-grants>
- The Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) program information is posted on our website: <https://www.mml.org/a/grants/emergency-connectivity-fund>. The application was submitted in July and approved in November of 2021. Bureaucracy has ensued. All equipment has been received by the 25 participants, and hotspots are deployed by most, but we are still working on the setups of the Chromebooks and iPads. One good piece of news is that the FCC changed the cutoff date of the program so that all of the hotspots will receive a full 12 months of data service. This was as a result of SHLB (Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition, <https://www.shlb.org/>) advocating on our behalf with the FCC. They included our experience in the appeal, and your director was able to testify to the FCC as one of the four cases demonstrating the need to extend the deadline.
- MMLL was able to benefit greatly from these programs. Here is the value gained from each:
 - Emergency Connectivity Fund = \$115,995
 - MI-83 TLC Kits Grant = \$101,433
 - MI-83 DLC Content Credit = \$87,725
 - **GRAND TOTAL = \$305,153** (*More than the MMLL annual budget revenues!!!*)

Tech Assistance (same info):

- “Emergency Geek” [Cory Walker](#) is continuing to serve MMLL member libraries in FY22. Each MMLL member library began the year with four hours of tech support plus mileage. Need more? Just ask!
- Member libraries are urged to build into their budgets ongoing maintenance funds and replacement costs for technology, an integral part of public library service.

Member Libraries:

- Leelanau Township Library has a new director. Welcome Julie Preneta!
- M. Alice Chapin Memorial Library (Marion) has a new director. Welcome Sarah Genereaux-Maddox!
- Six MMLL member libraries are participating in an MPRO grant, “Libraries as Mental Health Hubs,” in which they have staff training and offer resources to their patrons to connect them with help. This project is just beginning, with Zoom calls to coordinate between libraries and the partners - Spectrum Health, West Michigan Community Mental Health, Community Mental Health of Central Michigan, and Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics. The six libraries are:
 - Big Rapids Community Library
 - LeRoy Community Library
 - Evert Public Library
 - Mason County District Library
 - Hart Area Public Library
 - Pentwater Township Library

On the Horizon:

- The trainings for Beginning Workshop, New Director, and Advanced Director workshops are now all online in the Niche Staff Skills Academy. Find the course pathways starting here: www.michigan.gov/libraryce
- Planning for in-person conferences and workshops has begun again.
- The MCDA (cooperative directors’ association) is planning training on DEI – diversity, equity, and inclusion. TLN produces a very good webinar that is now posted on our MMLL website. See the [new tab on DEI](#) and stay tuned for more resources to be added soon.

Travel/Meetings:

- 2/9/22 - Reed City Area District Library, meet new director Melissa Rohen
- 2/24/22 – Reed City Area District Library – business after hours event to welcome new director
- 3/10/22 – Manistee County Library to meet with director & asst. director and see renovations
- Lots of Zooming

~Sheryl

Sheryl L. Mase
MMLL director