

MMLL Youth Services Committee

April 18, 2022

Meeting held via Zoom

Members in attendance: Diane Eisenga (McBain Community Library), Emily Garland (Mason County District Library), Susie Gray (Hart Area Public Library), Sarah Welch (Big Rapids Community Library)

Agenda:

1. Cathy Lancaster, Library of Michigan
 - a. Shared Cathy shared the website www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan where the “For Libraries” tab opens many programming ideas. The Youth Services programs include specifically Ready to Read Michigan, which opens to a website full of tool kits, social media posts and graphics, and more.
 - b. The CSLP manual is something we can all access through the Library of Michigan, to look for program ideas and printables as well as clip art.
 - c. There’s a webinar coming May 12 on “Learning for a Better Tomorrow” focusing on race in story times. You can find information here:
<https://libraryofmichigan.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/libraryofmichigan/eventList.jsp>
 - d. The Niche Academy is under the Continuing Education tab and has web classes for librarians that are very helpful. Emily mentioned they have used some of those during staff meetings.
 - e. NASA @ My Library kits are available to check out and use for programming, including “Sun Earth Moon” and “NASA Detective”.
 - f. Cathy discussed how Read Squared was chosen from among three bids the Library of Michigan received, for a Summer Reading tracker, and there are trainings online and coming up to learn how to use the app. It works well with paper tracking, to submit numbers on the State report at the end of summer and includes games & prizes for people who use it.
 - g. Cathy would love to hear about your library’s programs. Contact her and she might even show up!
 - h. (Links for all this information will be included in the email these notes are attached too.)
2. Summer Reading Program
 - a. Emily Garland – Will be having Gordon Russ come to do a magic show. Dynamic School Assemblies will be having a couple programs this summer and a local community member will be bringing some reptiles.
 - b. Sarah Welch - Library is planning a story time at the pool, possibly with a “merman” or “Aquaman” theme. Sarah also had trained this month with firemen and hopes to get them back for a touch-a-truck or fire simulation demonstration during the summer.
 - c. Diane Eisenga - Diane mentioned that her Conservation District is coming to do programming
3. Battle of the Books

- a. Diane has done this with 4th-6th graders, battling just a few other local libraries. Sarah is in the early planning stages for a larger competition, where each library reads five books (providing the books can be through ILL or purchase) and at the end, the winning team for each grade will “battle” with other Library teams, most likely via Zoom. There may be some funds available for this from the co-op. Timing would be for next winter, so Sarah will continue to work on this and possibly we could meet for some planning at the fall annual meeting.
- 4. Sharing Time
 - a. Emily Garland - The library is finishing up the Strategic Planning process, begun in the fall of 2021.
 - b. Sarah Welch - Library has done a couple of “Leap Into Science” curriculum programs, and she has enjoyed these science-based lessons on Shadows and Light, and Balance. This month’s program had eight children attend!
 - c. Susie Gray - Susie’s Easter Egg hunt had about 30 people, and they enjoyed searching for candy & trinkets in the eggs. Her April Fool’s joke of grape-juice-cups filled with Jell-O was also a hit.
 - d. Diane Eisenga - Diane’s library is in a school, so story times and class visits are keeping her busy, but this week Troy Graham (local poet & songwriter) is coming to do a Poetry Month program with older kids.
- 5. MLA Volunteering – Call for Ambassadors
- 6. Next meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, May 16 at 10:00 AM
 - a. We will not be meeting in June and July.