

Mid-Michigan Library League

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Advisory Council Meeting March 14, 2019 @ 10:00 a.m. Big Rapids Community Library

Meeting Notes

1. Introductions: who are you and what exciting new things are you working on?
 - Chris Cook – talked about the homebound and senior outreach part of her job, among many other things she does as assistant director at Big Rapids
 - Mary Ann Lenon – MTPL got citation of excellence at State Librarian’s luncheon during the annual MLA conference; usually gets summer programming grant from MCACA, but not this time and she is re-grouping to pay for programs already scheduled.
 - Jeanette Fleury – has been the region 9 MMLL Board representative, and this is her last year on the Board. She has given many years of service!
 - Tracy Logan-Walker – 3 things: the building in Cadillac needs HVAC replacement so she is getting bids and trying to find money; her Board wants to begin charging for out of area cards (she serves over 2,000 out of area) because penal fines are ¼ of what they were in the 90s; they are working on strategic planning, using the PLA model “Strategic Planning for Results” and will engage a community planning group in May.
 - Patti Skinner – has been diligently working on the MCDL school project to get student IDs that work for library cards for MCDL and MeLCat.
 - Eric Smith – working on MCDL annual report trying to find an engaging format
 - Debra Greenacre – has been director at Manistee for 16 mos. so far, working on restructuring, right-staffing, creating new job descriptions and new assistant director of public service services position for the main branch
 - Lauren Moran – Big Rapids has engaged the community for programming and support of reading garden with a “how does your garden grow?” program. Local farmers will come and do mini lectures, garden club too.
 - Mary Barker – Pentwater has a public hearing on their budget next week. They renovated in 2017, last fall installed a new roof, and this summer will have more mechanical work done on the building.
 - Tammy Hammerle – preparing for summer reading program at Pentwater.

2. OverDrive Updates – Eric Smith (MCDL) reported on the efforts being made to improve the “Up North Digital” OverDrive consortium, which includes 26 of the 36 MMLL member libraries. Currently, there is a new Steering Committee with two MMLL members, two Northland members, and the co-op directors as ex-officio members. There are additional members now involved creating the collection development process for a combined consortium contract, changing the current fees for the service from \$24,500 annually to \$8,000. This will mean more funds will go to content instead of fees, and the group is working to reduce the holds queues to improve patron experience when looking to download ebooks and eaudiobooks.
3. Read by Grade 3 Law – MLA and Library of Michigan are following this legislation, which is now going to kick in unless the governor has success in terminating its implementation. MCDL has created a resource packet for parents. Pentwater wrote a grant for launchpads for kids requiring Internet access to do homework.
4. 2020 Census – ALA is keeping tabs on the process and has communicated about the need for preparation, as much of the early stages of the 2020 decennial census will be done online, requiring a web-enabled device. The Fremont foundation is offering a grant to help communities with census work. The current administration wants a citizenship question on the census, which is greatly disputed.
5. MMLL Mini Grants – the group was reminded of the deadline for round 2 of the FY19 mini grant program (3/15/19).
6. Small Libraries Big Impact conference – the reserved spaces just for MMLL members have been relinquished to a general registration, first come-first served. MMLL had about 23 registrants during the two weeks reserved for our cooperative. 250-300 are expected at the conference, which will be held at TreeTops resort in Gaylord on April 29-30, 2019. To register, go to the workshops tab on the MMLL website for link.
<https://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars/workshops>.