

# Mid-Michigan Library League

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## Advisory Council Meeting

August 10, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Benzonia Public Library

### Meeting Notes:

1. Agenda review – added two items: MCLS membership, Performer’s Showcase
2. Introductions & updates from members around the table:
  - Patti Skinner (MCDL/Scottville branch manager, Advisory Council chair) – asks if anyone might be interested in being co-chair of the Advisory Council. Patti has been coordinating the “lightning round” 8-minute presentations for the annual meeting.
  - Eric Smith (MCDL director, MMLL Board chair) – happy to listen to the membership
  - Debra Greenacre (Manistee director) – Extreme relief and happiness at passing the millage renewal!!! Debra has been at Manistee now for only 8 months and had to hit the ground running. Next, they will be refurbishing the main building. Yes!
  - Stacy Pasche (Benzie Shores/Frankfort director) – Stacy has been director since July 1<sup>st</sup> when Cathy Carter retired. They are surviving a busy summer and starting to plan fall programming for youth; had Drummunity in the library and there is no separate programming space so everyone was engaged!
  - Michelle Guerra (Betsie Valley/Thompsonville director) – They planned ahead and put their millage renewal on the ballot early and it passed!!! They are in the poorest part of the county and had only one kid in their summer reading program, but made it work anyway. Michelle is sad that parents do not take advantage of this way to engage their kids in the summer for free. They had a parade in the middle of the street with their one participant in the program!
  - Michelle Leines (Benzonia assistant director) – welcomed folks to Benzonia and encouraged them to tour the library before leaving.
  - Tom Burnosky (Reed City director) – summer reading is now over and they are jumping into doing a break-out room. They are doing inventory with Apollo and it is going well. They will have a high school co-op student working at library. And, students from the middle school art class made a wonderful piece with fused glass made to look like a

bookshelf that they will enter into Art Prize. It has been on the wall at the library and will be a permanent piece of art for the library after Art Prize.

- Susan LaBelle (MMLL Board, Group 2 representative) – Susan is a retired librarian who worked in SE Michigan most of her career and is now in Frankfort and the MMLL Board rep for Benzie and Manistee counties.
- Amanda McLaren (Benzonia director) – The next big thing for Benzonia is that they want to do a Lego expo during National Library Week. They have millions of Legos and will set up stations on the upper level to have model building competitions and give prizes. They will show the Lego movie and have lots of community collaboration. The U of M School of Information maker grant was extended and Benzonia was selected to continue with a focus on photography. Also, they received a Pilcrow grant for children’s books.
- David Diller (Glen Lake director) – The library in Empire had Drummunity just the day before our meeting and had 30 kids. The main focus for Glen Lake is on their building project. It began with a strategic plan and hiring a space needs planner. Then they hired Quinn Evans to make the building plans. There will be an open house in two weeks to see plan and encourage donations, as they are fundraising for the entire cost of the building expansion. Their millage is only for operations. About 2/3 of the project funds have already been secured out of the \$1.75 million total cost. They will have more people space in the library, and separate programming space for 40-50 people. They will need to find temporary space when construction begins next spring.
- April Liedeke (Cadillac Adult Services head) – April has done some cool programming at CWPL. They did several Harry Potter escape room sessions in a very small room and people loved it! They held 20 sessions for whole families and 10 sessions for young adults. In total, 183 people participated! They plan to do it all again with 12 half-hour sessions.
- Tracy Logan-Walker (Cadillac director) – Tracy is trying to hire a youth librarian now that she has become director. Currently she is doing double-duty which is exhausting. They are pushing adult programming and want to try a free, fun, quirky dating series for adults looking for something to do on a date. They want to have a Bob Ross “paintathon” and do a newlywed type game. Also, they are considering a self-care series for the soul or some sort of social engagement month. They wanted to do yoga but their insurance provider is resistant. Another thought is to do a smoothie making and tasting program.
- Mary Barker (Pentwater director) – They had a very busy summer, and are happy with the new remodel of their building. An informational meeting for “Smart 9-1-1” attracted lots of seniors who live in Mason or Oceana counties and want to share information so that when they use their cell phones for 9-1-1, the system will know who they are, their address, and what their health issues might be (including the meds they take) for the dispatcher. Since the land lines are disappearing in favor of cell phones,

the systems need more data input to be efficient. Hart, Shelby and Pentwater will all sign folks up in September for the Smart 9-1-1 look up.

3. Current services of the cooperative – do you use them? Have questions? Want others?
  - RBdigital – audiobooks and Transparent Language
    - a. The eResources Committee (Chris Cook, Eric Smith, Stacy Pasche, Tom Burnosky, Terri Lukshaitis, Emma Ereksen) met via webinar and directed Sheryl to do a survey of options for FY19. The intention is to keep the RBdigital eAudiobooks and the Transparent Language Online for another year. Sheryl is working with the vendor on the need for better statistics.
    - b. Because of an increase in State Aid for FY19, as well as cost savings realized by implementing efficiencies, there is up to and additional \$12,000 to spend on the membership so all cardholders can have access to eResources. The committee wants to consider adding eBooks to the mix. If you have ideas or want input, please let us know.
    - c. Members are encouraged to make sure their patrons are aware of the RBdigital services – downloadable audiobooks and Transparent Language Online.
  - Technology support – Emergency Geek
    - a. The membership seems pleased with the Emergency Geek service, so we will continue it for another year. If you have not yet used your four hours of tech support from Cory Walker, please see <https://mml.ploud.net/a/tech-corner>.
    - b. Cory has taken Ploud training, knows about Deep Freeze, and is generally knowledgeable about computers, peripheral equipment and software.
  - Maker kits –
    - a. There are 21 maker kits, plus 2 MakerBot Mini+ 3D printers, a Read Poster design CD, and a light meter. They are for the membership to use! See the list and reserve one today! <https://mml.ploud.net/a/maker-space-resources>
    - b. We will be re-convening the Maker Team, so think about if you would like to serve.
  - Mini-grant program – will be run again in FY19, probably announced in November or December
  - Webinars – there are several archived webinars on our website: <https://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars/webinars>. Ideas for additional webinars are welcome, and it was suggested to have Eva Davis of Canton do a patron behavior webinar, and de-escalation training was also suggested.
  - Board trainings and strategic planning – the MMLL director has done both – just ask.
  - Website, email list, News of Interest – feedback always welcome! The email list is for everyone to use! See <https://mml.ploud.net/about-us/email-list-information>
  - Group discounts – RBdigital magazines, Movie licensing, Syndetics for jacket art (Auto-Graphics libraries), others as requested
  - Coordination/communication with Up North Digital OverDrive consortium
    - a. There is now a steering committee working on making the system better

- b. We are trying to get better pricing so that our smallest libraries can participate for under \$2,000 per year.
  - Consulting services (policies and procedures, HR issues, etc.) – just ask!
  - RIDES delivery service payment – MMLL pays for its members RIDES service.
4. Future meetings of the Advisory Council - do you like regional meetings?
    - The group likes the concept of having four meetings each year, rotating in quadrants:
      - a. November 8, 2018 (MMLL Board meets November 15, 2018)
      - b. (skip January) (MMLL Board meets January 17, 2019)
      - c. March 14, 2019 (MMLL Board meets March 21, 2019)
      - d. May 9, 2019 (MMLL Board meets May 16, 2019)
      - e. August 8, 2019 (MMLL Board meets August 15, 2019)
      - f. ANNUAL MEETING – everyone meets together September 19, 2019
  5. Annual luncheon information – we will be at Caberfae on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The state librarian, Randy Riley and library law consultant, Clare Membiela, will be on the agenda, as will another version of “lightning round” presentations in which the presenters move from table to table making 8 minute presentations, the resources for which will be provided to attendees on a USB flash drive. Invitations are going out soon, and registration is open at <https://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars/workshops>
  6. MCLS membership – discussion of who is/isn’t a member of MCLS and why. Some are looking into the soft skills training that is offered to members. Also, they discount certain things for their members. See [www.mcls.org](http://www.mcls.org).
  7. Performer’s Showcase – members are asking about the coordination of paid programs for their libraries, especially for the summer. Originally, the Mideastern Michgian Library Cooperative was extending a performer discount and scheduling services IF the library staff attended the annual Performer’s Showcase. Cadillac staff tried this and it did not happen. The MMLL director will look into this and report back from the next MCDA meeting. Remember also that you can get a Michigan Humanities Council grant and use their performers list, but you need to begin early. Kay Williams at Hart has done this successfully.
  8. Should the cooperative purchase costumes for member libraries to use for programs? An inflatable dinosaur? Hmmmmm.
  9. Think about whether you want to be on the Continuing Education committee. We want to make some short training videos and post them on a YouTube channel (“bright ideas”). All committees are re-appointed in November, along with Board officers.