

# Mid-Michigan Library League

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MMLL Group 8 and 9 Meeting Notes  
Seville Township Library  
November 8, 2017

Attending the meeting were: Alycia McKowen (Seville), Sherma Horrocks (Richland), Patty Rockafellow (White Pine), Mary Ann Lenon (Morton Twp), Jeanette Fleury (Group 9 Board rep), Chris Cook (Big Rapids, Group 8 Board rep), Sheryl Mase (MMLL Director)

Around the table:

1. Alycia shared that her library has partnered with a 5<sup>th</sup> grade class at an Alma school, delivering books and collaborating on programs. She has circulating WiFi hotspots that have been very well-received. The library was built in 1942 and they have recently renovated the upstairs for collection space and programming. Alycia said she will most likely be donating her Emergency Geek hours, and she is offering to assist others with technology or any other library-related issue.
2. Sherma said she has her computers locked down pretty well already and may not need Emergency Geek hours. She mentioned a Santa program coming up on Saturday and also the Montcalm county-wide one book program with the book Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi. The book is a more difficult read for her community, she said, but they are trying to engage folks with a presenter from Liberia. Also, the county needs to work on the millage renewal for December of 2019, to be in place for the August 2020 distribution.
3. Patty mentioned several programs they are doing – monthly movies, holiday programs, “Alone” program, and more. They have a partnership with Central Montcalm and use an old school building for programs in the cafeteria space. She needs to raise funds to bring to the collaboration.
4. Mary Ann applied for a MCACA grant to fund summer reading programs for 2018. She does this way in advance in order to receive funding. They had another successful campaign and chocolate gala that raised \$10,600! Donated tickets for an event at the VanAndel arena raised \$700 alone! She will have a speaker on human trafficking awareness (Big Rapids will have her as well) and she is looking into getting a fiber optics line to the library building for better telecom speeds.
5. Chris said they will have the 3D printers at the library in December for a couple of weeks and staff member Chelsea will engage the kids in making small gifts on those printers; and then the presents can be gift wrapped to take home. Big Rapids is also creating a winter snow town out of craft paper; the creations can be taken home or added to the library’s winter decorations. The library’s literacy initiative, which is called “Read Everywhere in Big Rapids”, continues to grow. The newest program is called “Books Around Big Rapids”. This has its goal of getting books into doctors’ offices and businesses in Big Rapids so parents, kids and customers can read while they are at those locations. The first “drop-off” was at the local pediatrician’s office; placing baskets of books in the 11 exam

rooms. The library's other big project is the construction of the Literacy Playground at the library's park, which is in the final planning stages. The playground will consist of various areas that will focus on early literacy skills -- sing, play, talk, read, write. The park's plan also will include a Little Phelps Free Library, posts for hanging hammocks, and community garden plots.

6. The group was happy about the RBdigital downloadable audiobook collection that we all have access to now, as well as the Emergency Geek hours. We touched briefly on QSAC and Sheryl will find out how libraries can get waivers for ADA compliance if they are "grandfathered" in.
7. Jeanette said she had been in touch with Cory (Walton Erickson), asking if she could host a future meeting. Cory said she has limited space but could host in March 2018 on a Tuesday morning between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Jeanette said we can query the group for the best Tuesday in March.