

Mid-Michigan Library League

201 N. Mitchell Street, Suite 302
Cadillac, MI 49601
231-775-3037
mml.org



Advisory Council Meeting May 3rd, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Pathfinder Community Library, Baldwin

Meeting Notes

1. Introductions & updates from members around the table
 - Patti Skinner (branch manager, Scottville, Mason County District Library) – just back from Rural Libraries Conference - eight from MCDL were able to attend
 - Jennifer Thorson (asst. director, Reed City Area District Library) – unveiled their new seed library; implementing an adult portion of the summer reading program – thinking of doing a bingo sheet and giving prizes of three Amazon gift cards \$300
 - Eric Smith (director, Mason County District Library) – Eric is the MMLL Board chair; wants to encourage successful meetings of cooperative members with lots of information sharing between colleagues and potential collaborations; the Advisory Council can suggest new ideas and services they want from the cooperative
 - Bonnie Povilaitis (director, Pathfinder Community Library) – two book clubs running nicely; upcoming county-wide millage in August including Chase and Luther; reading contest in July that local Dairy Queen supports with prizes; “wings of wonder” birdhouse building program; invasive species for youth program offered via MSU extension collaboration; X: a novel – tried to do programming with wonderful storytellers out of Detroit, but not well attended, will try again in the summer at the Henrietta cultural center; library windows now look dark because of added sun protection, will have newly painted signage; community has “Trout-o-Rama” which lends to interesting activities; Bonnie said hospice is willing to present a program on life planning.
 - Mary Moffit (trustee, Pathfinder) – roof needs to be fixed in August; new project of creating a garden in back of the library
 - Kathy Oostmeyer (Board chair, Pathfinder) – partnering with Forest Service, their venue is good size for programs (up to 50) and they have offered programs on bears and mushrooms; new forest ranger wants to put on program every other week and partner with the library to

educate about invasive species; the Lake County Property Owners Association may give a grant to the library

- Karen Kuzmicz (Pathfinder staff) – has just returned from being out on medical leave
- Lilas Van Scoyoc (director, Evert Public Library) – they just held their annual fundraiser dinner and cleared over \$2,000; individuals in the community started a book club at the library; preparing for summer reading program
- Mary Barker (director, Pentwater Township Library) – their whole Board and staff were able to go to the Rural Libraries Conference on a rotated schedule and using sub hours; Board is doing self-education and will compare notes to further learn from each other.
- Kay Williams (director, Hart Area Public Library) – have three thriving book clubs every month; began a family storyhour with guests from community (had a local veterinarian, a meteorologist from GR, etc.) and it is creating a buzz with its success

Bonnie reported for her colleagues:

- Chase Township Library – Roxanne Ware, director, is still healing from a car accident from a year ago; Chase has a pickle fest that over three days raises close to \$10,000
- Luther Area Public Library – Ariel Lucas, director, started a movie night once a month with a potluck and activities for the kids that has been well-received

2. Current services of the cooperative – do you use them? Want others?

- Bonnie mentioned wanting to learn more about MMLL services and there was some sharing of information about RBdigital and the Up North Digital OverDrive consortium. Both provide apps for iOS and Android devices and the patrons can set up their own accounts to use the resources. <http://mml.ploud.net/a/rbdigital-resources>
- Tech support hours were discussed, with Pentwater giving their hours into the “pool” and Lilas indicating the desire to have Cory Walker come to Evert. The group discussed what Cory has been able to do to help member libraries. <http://mml.ploud.net/a/tech-corner>
- There are 21 maker kits (sewing machines, photography resources, bots and electronics, etc.) and other resources (two 3D printers, a 3D scanner with iPad, a light meter, and a DVD for making READ posters) that are available to the members. The group discussed programs they have done with the kits. <http://mml.ploud.net/a/maker-space-resources>
- The mini-grant program for this fiscal year is over, with 11 member libraries awarded grants totaling \$4,378. Look for this again next year, with another \$5,000 to award to MMLL members to enhance library service/programming and send staff to trainings. <http://mml.ploud.net/a/grants>
- In-person training has not been as successful as webinars for our cooperative, since it is easier when travel is not involved. The group discussed topics such as identity theft and personal safety they would like to see covered. There is an archive of all webinars that have been recorded over the past couple years on the MMLL website. Topics include cybersecurity, district library formation, the opioid crisis, E-rate, ADA, records retention, HR issues, and more.

Mary said that at Pentwater they are giving staff time to go online to take in a webinar and look at the resources on the MMLL website. <http://mml.pcloud.net/workshops-webinars/webinars>

- Members commented on the various communication tools of MMLL, the website (<http://mml.org>), the email list (midmichlib@googlegroups.com), and the newsletter (“News of Interest” <http://mml.pcloud.net/news-events/news-of-interest-newsletter>)
 - Other services that members have taken advantage of are assistance with strategic planning (Manistee, Benzie Shores), Board training (Manistee, Pentwater, Reed City), and consulting (Marion, Darcy, Walkerville, Wheatland, and more).
 - Discussion of RIDES – the cooperative will pay for up to three days of delivery for class size I-IV libraries and five days for class V-VI libraries, with branch library delivery as approved by the MMLL Board. Members having issues with the RIDES service should ALWAYS start by using the reporting interface (<https://www.mcls.org/rides/assistance/>).
 - Group discounts are negotiated by the cooperative or offered to all public libraries statewide. See <http://mml.pcloud.net/a/discounts>.
3. Future meetings of the Advisory Council – the group seemed to concur that regional meetings are helpful and that they are the basis for any new service ideas for the co-op. Also, the MMLL director is willing and able to make library visits upon request.
 4. Ideas for annual meeting – location? Program? The group liked the idea of having the State Librarian at the annual meeting, and having the meeting in the Cadillac area. Also, the “speed dating” presentations were well-received, and the idea of including TJ Smith from Sherman Township who did an RLC presentation on wearing all the hats.

Notes taken by Sheryl Mase, MMLL director