



Michigan Cooperative Directors Association

Report for

Library of Michigan Board of Trustees

September 7, 2017

Michigan Library Cooperatives serve the needs of public libraries and many also serve multi-type libraries such as academic, school and special. The Cooperative Directors have submitted information for this report that reflects current achievements, ongoing planning, and future activities.

Detroit Public Library Cooperative – Jo Anne Mondowney, Director

- **Sunday Hours:** Sunday service is returning to the Main Library after it ended as a result of budget reductions in 1981. In addition, for the first time ever, two branch locations will also offer Sunday hours. Beginning Sunday, October 8, 2017, Main Library, the Redford Branch Library and the Laura Ingalls Wilder Branch Library, will be open 1 – 5 p.m., October – May.
- **2017 Author Day:** DPL's 2017 Author Day program welcomed author Renee Watson to Main Library on May 15th and May 16th. Ms. Watson's book, *This Side of Home*, was nominated for the Best Fiction Award for Young Adults by the American Library Association. Approximately 500 students from 11 schools attended. Author Day was sponsored by DPL, the DPL Friends Foundation and the DeRoy Testamentary Fund.
- **2017 Summer Learning Programs:** DPL launched its 2017 "Build a Better World" Summer Reading program on Saturday, June 10, with a fun kick-off event at Main Library attended by 175 children and adults. The Michigan Rotary Club's Eye Examination-Mobile provided eye exams and students from the University of Detroit Mercy's Dental School provided dental hygiene presentations and giveaways. The finale celebration included the 50 top readers receiving bicycles from Gale Publishing. Three branches – Parkman, Duffield and Franklin – participated in "Reading Teacher in the Library," a pilot summer program that provided certified reading specialists to work with K-3 grade students who need support to improve their reading skills.
- **Author Visit – April Ryan:** DPL welcomed April Ryan, a 30-year veteran journalist to Main Library on Saturday, August 5, for a discussion of her book, *At Mama's Knee, Mothers and Race in Black and White*. Since 1997, Ms. Ryan has served as White House correspondent for American Urban Network.
- **ARISE Detroit Neighborhoods Day:** On Saturday, August 5, DPL participated in ARISE Detroit's Neighborhood Day. Main Library partnered with the Michigan Science Center and the Detroit Historical Museum by providing games, face painting, books and refreshments on the library's Kirby Street lawn. Branches supported "Neighborhoods Reading Month" in August by sponsoring reading programs with Detroit themes.
- **Project Art:** The Campbell, Hubbard, Jefferson, Parkman and Wilder branches and Main Library are hosting free after-school art classes sponsored by ProjectArt. Beginning this fall, ProjectArt artists will also hold "studio" hours at libraries to work on their own projects. This "resident artist" component is intended to raise awareness of the creative process and to engage library users in discussions about art.
- **Dlectricity:** Main Library will be a featured site for Dlectricity 2017, a festival of lights sponsored by DTE Energy in Midtown on September 22 and 23. The Kip Collective, an experiential video shop integrating projection, lighting and technology with storytelling, has assembled a live action

narrative about a librarian who saves the Internet from false information that takes over the bookshelves.

Lakeland Library Cooperative – Sandra Wilson, Director

- A new emphasis on continuing education has come about as an Action of the Strategic Plan. Many new things are happening.
- Four interest groups have been formed. They include IT, Human Resources, Legal and Management. They will each meet twice a year.
- A Lakeland CE facebook page has been created to encourage discussions among Lakeland member library employees on issues.
- A Book Discussion Group has been added for library staff. The first book is Five Dysfunctions of a Team. The plan is to have six books a year.
- In the past CE workshops were self-funded. That is changing. Beginning in October, Lakeland's new fiscal year, \$20,000 is being budgeted for workshops with the plan that there will be no cost to Lakeland members or it will be greatly reduced over the self-funded cost to members. With these funds a new all day annual workshop in February 2018 will be provided free of charge to members. The topic is the Future of Libraries with Miguel Figueroa from ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries to speak in the morning and Samantha Minnis from Grand Valley State University Library to speak on customer service in the afternoon.
- Each library will receive a CE check of \$1,523 to use for workshop attendance for MLA, PLA, ALA, Rural Library Conference or any other conference of interest to members.
- Four proposals for a RFP are currently being reviewed by a committee for a consultant to prepare a report on the future of the shared Lakeland ILS. It is planned that the result will be a strategic plan for the ILS that will set a focus, timeline, cost for enhancements to the ILS and consideration of a new ILS.
- After a year of the Finance Committee meeting, the Board on August 10 adopted a plan for the future use of the Fund Balance. This includes a Capital Improvement Plan for the next seven years plus an annual plan for some committed and assigned/ unassigned fund balance accounts.
- Sandra Wilson, Cooperative Director, is retiring August 31, 2017, however will continue part-time until a replacement is hired. Bradbury Miller Associates from Kansas City will be doing the search. It is planned that the position will be advertised in September and a new person on board in January 2018. Sandra Wilson has been Cooperative Director since June 2008.

Midwestern Michigan Library Cooperative – Denise Hooks, Director

- Redesigned and launched a new website to improve security and provide additional functionality including online registration for meetings and events
- Hosted 50 attendees at the Joint Annual Board/Advisory Council meeting.
- Attended the MLA Executive Summit focusing on Michigan demographics and real estate trends as they relate to library patron use now and in the future.
- Participated in strategic planning with the Board of the Friends of Michigan Libraries; officially assumed financial management of the Friends of Michigan Libraries organization.
- Led the MMLC Document Review Committee in revising organization Bylaws
- Held a meeting of the MMLC OverDrive Consortia to discuss new features of the service and determine steps to achieve collection development processes; attended the OverDrive Digipalooza conference.
- Attended the American Library Association Conference.
- Prepared final reports for the MMLC Work Plan 2016-17 and Technology Plan 2014-17; created new Work Plan 2017-18 and Technology Plan 2017-20.
- Filed the appropriate E-rate forms during MMLC's final year of participation.

- Met with the Programming Team and planned the MMLC Performer Showcase in September.

Mid-Michigan Library League – Sheryl Mase, Director

- In FY18, beginning October 1, 2017, the Mid-Michigan Library League will have 36 members. Two libraries, Suttons Bay Bingham District Library and Houghton Lake Public Library, had given us resolutions signed by their Boards to leave MMLL in order to join other cooperatives. Ardis Missaukee District Library will not qualify for State Aid in FY18 and their Board has selected not to pay for cooperative membership. Because of the reduction in membership, we also have a reduction in revenues for the cooperative.
- Every expenditure made from the MMLL budget has been reviewed and many have been discontinued or reduced in order to maximize the ability to serve the membership.
- The Finance Committee and Advisory Council Co-Chairs met on July 27th at the Mason County District Library in Ludington. The group reviewed five separate budget scenarios for FY18 along with revised Plan of Service and MMLL Benefits of Membership drafts. The group considered staffing level options along with the choice of a virtual vs. physical cooperative office. Going forward, the Finance Committee has recommended the budget reflecting that we remain in the current office location, stay at the current staffing levels (director full time, bookkeeper 10 hrs.), freeing up \$15,000 for e-resources to serve the entire cooperative without billing the membership, keeping the mini-grant program, and providing a bank of four hours of tech support for each member, to be fulfilled by a third party contractor.
- The 18 maker kits and two 3D printers have circulated 98 times since we created the collection last year. These materials are for the member libraries to use for programming and demonstrations.
- There are new directors at Leelanau Township Library – Nellie Danke and at Darcy Library of Beulah – Jenny Blossey. Soon, there will be a new director at Manistee County Library and Cathy Tacoma has announced her retirement from Cadillac Wexford Public Library by the end of the calendar year. Lots of changes over the past couple years!
- We will convene an informational session on district library formation on Friday, August 25th, from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (est.) at the M. Alice Chapin Memorial Library (AKA the Marion Public Library), 120 E. Main Street, Marion. We will review the Seurnynck webinar and have Library of Michigan staff Clare Membiela (Library Law Specialist) and Kathy Webb (State Aid Coordinator) on hand for the discussion.

Northland Library Cooperative – Roger Mendel, Director

- Northland welcomes Suttons Bay Library to the cooperative October 1. This brings the total number of member libraries to 23. New services for the coming year include IT assistance for member libraries, enhanced OCLC service, a technology workshop this fall and a special grant program to enhance library services to users.

Southwest Library Cooperative – John Mohnney, Director

- Our last Council and Board Meetings of 2017 (and the first of the Fiscal Year) will be on Thursday, October 12 at 2:00 and 3:00 at the Van Buren District Library. Cathy Lancaster, Youth Services Librarian from the Library of Michigan, will be our Speaker. We need to replace a Board Member, pick new Officers, approve a Budget for 2018, and pick 2018 Meeting dates and places.

Suburban Library Cooperative – Tammy Turgeon, Director

- Cooperative staff met with Utica Community Schools (Michigan's 2nd largest school district) to begin implementation of its virtual library card program where all students will be able to use their student ID number to access the library's electronic resources. These resources include MeL (promoting school age resources), Overdrive (ebooks and eaudiobooks), RBDigital (digital magazines), Freegal (digital music), and tutor.com (live tutoring and study resources). RBDigital and tutor.com were purchased with the Cooperative's State Aid to Public Libraries funds so that all of the residents of Macomb County, Troy and Harper Woods have access to these wonderful resources. This program has already been successfully implemented with three other school districts in our service area. Promotional events will be held in September at each of the public libraries serving students in the Utica Community Schools district and will include local elected officials as well.
- The Cooperative approved the 2017-18 Annual Plan which includes contracting with a grant writer for cooperative-wide projects, forming a committee to coordinate a shared internship program for MLS students, continuing to provide access to webinars as requested by the members, and holding a trustees meeting with featured speakers from library, business and non-profit entities.

Superiorland Library Cooperative – Pam Christensen, Director

- The Ironwood Carnegie Library (Ironwood), City of Ironwood and the Superiorland Library Cooperative have partnered to implement a Beyond the Walls TV White Space project in conjunction with Digital Village Associates, Gigabit Library Network and Library of Michigan. The Ironwood Carnegie Library received a \$2,000 LSTA grant from the Library of Michigan to fund purchase of a base station. The Superiorland Library Cooperative received \$13,000 from Digital Village Associates for additional equipment. This is one of three small demonstration projects being funded. The other projects are located at Capital District Library (Lansing) and Otsego County Library (Gaylord).
- City of Marquette voters approved a \$4.2 million bond issue for the Peter White Public Library on August 8, 2017 with an 80.61% margin. The PWPL will be making repairs to their 1904 historic building, replacing 20 year old HVAC systems, replacing flooring, reorganizing library service areas and making other improvements with the funds raised by the bond issue.
- The Portage Lake District Library (Houghton) and the Superior District Library-Pickford Community Library (Pickford) hosted Michigan Library Association events to honor Representative Scott Dianda and Lee Chatfield during August 2017. Both members of the Michigan House of Representatives supported the legislation to exempt public libraries from tax captures.
- The Superiorland Library Cooperative contracts with the Upper Peninsula Region of Library Cooperation (UPRLC) to manage the SIRSI/Dynix Integrated Library System for libraries in Michigan's Upper and Northern Peninsulas. The system serves almost 90 sites. The SLC/UPRLC staff has implemented MobileCirc and has been offering training sessions on this application to library staff members. Member libraries have been very enthusiastic about the outreach options available using MobileCirc.
- The UPRLC will be holding their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 13 and Thursday, September 14, 2017 at the Peter White Public Library in Marquette. This annual event attracts library personnel from Michigan's Upper and Northern Lower Peninsulas. Workshops, vendor displays and demonstrations are presented during the event. Randy Riley and Deb Biggs from the Library of Michigan will be presenting workshops during the UPRLC Annual Meeting.

The Library Network – James Pletz, Director

- After a nearly three year process, members of the TLN Shared Automation Services User Group (50 libraries with 52 locations) voted unanimously to terminate services with current vendor, Sirsi/Dynix and switch to the Integrated library services (ILS) provided by the Library Corporation/CARL (TLC/CARL). The process will take nearly a year to fully migrate from a Sirsi Symphony product to the CARL solution. The initial savings, on a product universally admired by TLN library staff at all levels, will save \$1,050,000 over a seven year term from current maintenance costs. It includes a 0% annual increase in maintenance fees for the first seven years of the contract.
- New members of the TLN Steering Committee were introduced and outgoing members thanked for their service at the annual TLN Picnic meeting held on July 14. State Librarian Randy Riley was the featured speaker. TLN will explore the potential for engaging cooperative wide in a “Campaign of Civility” to promote greater decency in how staff interact with the public.
- Westland Mayor, William Wild, contacted TLN Director, Jim Pletz, and requested assistance in vetting and recommending candidates to fill the five vacant positions on the Board of the William Faust Westland Public Library. The vacant board and need to move positively ahead prompted the mayor to accept the TLN offer of assistance. Candidates were vetted, ranked and approved on August 7 by council. They took office on August 9 for their first board meeting. TLN has agreed to arrange board training in September and assist with the identification of a new library director.

White Pine Library Cooperative – Bryon Sitler, Director

- This last month has been a "catch-up" month for projects that hadn't been completed during the year. It has also been taken up with finalizing details for upcoming workshops, contacting speakers and getting handouts ready. I am also planning to repeat the Policy workshops several times in the Cooperative. Additionally I've been able to visit more libraries this month as well as doing several Board training sessions.

Woodlands Library Cooperative – Kate Pohjola Andrade, Director

- Since May, Kate has been out to five more member libraries to conduct Board Orientation trainings and/or one-on-one talks with library directors. She currently has two more on the calendar and knows that will change.
- In a thank you note, a member librarian reported that attending National Library Legislative Day with the Woodlands contingent was the "highlight of my career."
- Woodlands is growing our Ancestry Library Edition group - it has gone from 20 members to 29 members taking advantage of cooperative-negotiated discounts on a service patrons absolutely love.
- We sent an eResources Committee member to Digipalooza, OverDrive's bi-annual promotional event. Our members voted to increase financial contributions for content in OverDrive group, and the cooperative's proposed budget for FY 2017-18 includes an increase in contribution for content as well. 48 of our 51 members are part of our OverDrive group.
- The FY 2017-18 budget goes to the Advisory Council on Thursday, August 24, and includes professional memberships for both MLA and MCLS, \$1000 mini grants to each member library to use for programming or services, and a cooperative-wide subscription to Consumer Reports online. Once the Council approves the budget, it goes to the cooperative's governing board for their approval at their meeting in September.
- Our mobile laptop lab has been in almost constant use since it was configured. Member libraries use it for a variety of training opportunities. A member library has reserved it to offer training on

Make a Difference Day in October, and the Library of Michigan staff has it reserved for Ploud training in October and for the Loleta Fyan Small & Rural Libraries Conference next spring.

- Upcoming workshops include Teen & Tween Mental Health First Aid, HR Q&A, QuickBooks for Beginners, and Choosing an ILS for smaller libraries. More information is always available here: <http://woodlands.lib.mi.us/calendar/workshops/>
- Woodlands chartered a bus which took 35 members to see the exhibits at ALA. Everyone had an excellent time and came home full of great ideas. If the interest is there, Woodlands may charter a bus to take members to attend MMLC's performer showcase.
- Many WLC members are reporting significant losses in penal fines revenues. We will be forming a task force at this month's Advisory Council meeting to help member librarians and their boards reach out to their local judges and courts. Many don't realize the impact that parallel ordinances can have on penal fine revenue for small libraries.
- Sign up to receive WLC's monthly e-newsletter, Woodlands Wanderings, by visiting: <http://eepurl.com/cuQKvb>