

**Northland Library Cooperative
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Petoskey District Library
Aug 19, 2021**

Introduction of Members:

Members Present:

Val Meyerson (Petoskey District Library),	Kendall Spratt (Fife Lake Public Library),
John Roberts (Kalkaska County Library),	Michele Howard (Traverse Area District Library),
Amber Alexander (Presque Isle District Library),	Ryan Deery (Charlevoix Public Library),
Monica Peck (Boyne District Library),	Brian Freitag (Tahquamenon Area Library)
Judy Jacolone (Topinabee Public Library,	Sue Warner (Wolverine Community Library)
Helen Miller(Indian River Area Library),	Jacki Skinner (Otsego County Library),
Tanya Procknow (Mackinaw Area Public Library)	Linda Adams (Northland Library Cooperative Director)
Mark Bronson (Cheboygan Library)	

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:36am by President, Amber Alexander.

Approval of Agenda:

R. Deery made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by J. Roberts. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

V. Meyerson made a motion to accept the April 15, 2021 Minutes seconded by M. Peck. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Reports

- **July 2021** L. Adams presented the financials noting nothing was outstanding except that we are under budget. M. Howard made a motion to recommend to the NLC Board to accept the Financial Report, seconded by J. Roberts. Motion carried.
- **CD Renewal 9/3/21** The Cooperative has about \$100,000 in a CD that is up for renewal. It was motioned by M. Howard and seconded by N. Miller forward to the NLC Board to renew the CD.
- **FY 20/21 Budget Amendment Review:** After the audit, it was realized that some money needed to move between funds. Travel is way down as all meetings are virtual. Approval will be needed at the September meeting.
- **FY 21/22 Budget Amendment Review** This is basically the same budget with minimal changes. Everyone is hoping for in-person meetings to return. There is a discussion to move some money from the Contingency fund to add services for the next year. This will need to be approved at the September meeting.

Directors Report:

Linda reviewed her presented report, noting the following:

- Linda Introduced new Directors who introduced themselves: Brian Freitag from Tahquamenon, Kendall Spratt from Fife Lake, Helen Miller introduced Kelsey Rutkowski from Indian River, and Judy Jacolone from Topinabee.
- Some discussion ensued about Penal Fines and threat to this funding source for libraries and encouraged all library directors to contact their Legislators about the importance of funding libraries.
- The Cooperative throughout the state applied for ARPA grant funds to 1. Provide Overdrive Content and 2. Equipment including laptops and outreach kits. These grants had a combined total of \$250K in statewide marketing for libraries.
- The Library of Michigan is still waiting for the Legislature to disperse the funds for the ARPA grants and hope this is done by October 1st. Amber, John and Michele all applied for grants.

- Year of Tech is going well and positive feedback has been received
- The monthly Northland Cooperative Chat will cease unless issues come up that people want to talk about.
- Linda reminded everyone to use the Education Grants. MLA is virtual and \$95 this year and could be paid for by this grant.
- If you applied for an Enhancement grant, please make sure to submit your receipts and invoices.

Business:

- **Board By-Laws** The draft is under review by lawyer Anne Seuryck.
- **Services Review Committee** Peck explained the survey that was taken of NLC members to add services. It was motioned by V. Meyerson and seconded by M. Peck to forward to the Board the addition of BookPage and Consumer Reports Online to the Services NLC offers to member libraries.
- **Up North Digital – eMags and new member agreement** Meyerson gave an update about the program. Bills will go out in January. Please look at the member agreement and collection development policy. Please contact Val for more information. Meyerson will work on a “fact sheet” for members.
- **Advisory Council -Slate of Officers for FY 21-22** Potential slate of candidates was offered and will be voted on at the September meeting. The current slate is: Meyerson as Chair, Peck as Vice Chair and Howard as Treasurer.

What's happening at your library?

Mark, Chebiyan: Has 4 new board members and is having a hard time finding employees; lost 3 in June due to Coast Guard transfers. Changing furniture if anyone would like them contact Mark. Decrease use of audio CDs as cars change over and move to streaming. Slowed down on purchases of CDs. Losing Board President.

Val, Petoskey: Same with music CD's with a ton being sent on via MEL; 3 new board members (appointments by mayor) of only 5 members and is hoping to retain long term board members. Award LoM Grant \$25,000 support of your Growing Readers Together - partner program with public school . Back to normal patron levels at outside events. Door counts still way down. Fall programming might be inside but waiting to see. PDL has started some wellness programs with staff: monthly potlucks, chair massages, coloring, scavenger hunt around town, etc. Really nice to see people working together. Funding from a variety of sources: staff friends, etc.; Community Read:Night Watchman and has a tribal member facilitating discussions, action Bingo card to learn about the Native Tribe locally. Very nice way to have the communities together and discuss and learn. Great experience for all!

Nannette, Elk Rapids:Expansion project is truly dead. Money has been refunded. A title search revealed the library property is half owned by the Township and the City. It's going to get really ugly. Building is having structural issues. Trouble with grants and getting computers from LeNovo too! Summer Reading is going great!

Monica, Boyne: Did all summer programming outdoors which has been great and people enjoyed getting outside. Mermaid program was a HIT! Over 200 people showed up! Great bookmobile partnerships and schools, DDA renewed TIF so they opted out.

Sue, Wolverine. Great Summer Reading inside via appointment. Trying to purchase a new building that is being renovated.

Brian, Tahquamenon. Things are going good. Looking forward to some bond issues as they are a school/public library. Many construction projects with the building which will benefit staff and materials! Good Summer Reading results.

Helen, Indian River: Good Summer Reading and sad it's done and gearing up for Back to School. Hosted a Meet the teachers. Teachers will be taking turns reading at the library. Adding to hours. Added Creative bug and Hoopla. Exciting to share with patrons. Adding to the staff. Thanks to everyone who helped Helen with this year and she will go back to part-time.

Judy, Mackinaw City : Added some staff. Working on their outdoor space with outdoor fall and winter programming with hot chocolate, etc. and Santa. Summer Reading was all outside. Crafts were a hit. Lots of hands-on programming with tons of donations from a supportive community! New donated seating. Grant for new seating and shelving.

Michele, Traverse Area: Board but have had some health problems. Rotary Grant for a bookmobile; NEA grant to do a Community read with Joy Harjo, American Sunrise. Completed a Strategic Plan with MCLS. Very busy and back to normal summer reading club!

John, Kalkaska: Back to pre-covid numbers, set Summer Reading records! Damage from last rain in July because the building has some serious structural issues but it's taken care of and collection is fine. Band-aiding until a new building can be built. John feels that ALA is really letting us all down. Others agreed.

Ryan, Charlevoix: Back to pre-pandemic levels and Summer Reading was a hit! Working on a One Card program with the schools! Working City with checkout bikes. Work with Tribe for a great program with history of the Tribe. Student Board member joining the Board as an Advisory Committee Member.

Judy, Topinabee: Issues of politics with Township Board overseeing the library and with all the problems everyone has resigned. Getting new computers and software, and the building is getting remodeled. She's the only person working there right now!

Kendall, Fife Lake: Summer reading went well. Lots of storywalks. Big project is the school libraries which are in poor condition. Hiring a couple of new staff.

Amber: School librarian going back to school. Weeding in the high school library. Using the Baker and Talyor book "return" and she's got over \$500 in credit from the program. Youth Librarian is excited with lots of programs and good results. The theater has gremlins! The manager is doing a good job. Programming is going great. Recommend Janet Young she speaks about shipwrecks. Posen Branch is currently closed until October.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 1:06pm.

The next scheduled Advisory Board meeting is September for August 23, 2021 at 10:30am at the Alcona County Library.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele P. Howard, Director,
Traverse Area District Library