

Introduction of Members:

Members Present:

Kelsey Rutkowski (Indian River Area Library)
Denise Bearre (Alcona County Library)
Leanne Milliman (Crooked Tree District Library)
Linda Adams (Northland Library Cooperative)
Mark Bronson (Cheboygan Area Public Library)
John Roberts (Kalkaska County Library)
Ryan Deery (Charlevoix Public Library)
Michelle Howard (Traverse City Area Library)
Pamela Williams (Elk Rapids District Library)
Susan Warner (Wolverine library)

- Michelle Howard called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m
- Motion to approve the Agenda by Denise Bearre, seconded by Sue Warner
- Motion to approve the minutes, December 15, 2022 by Mark Bronson Motion seconded by Ryan Deery

Financial Reports Adams

Financial reports:

- Reports were presented by Linda Adams. We are under budget everywhere
- Northland received first direct state aid payment
- Motion to accept the financial report was made by Michelle Howard and seconded by Pam Williams

Directors report:

- See attached
All libraries are encouraged to apply for \$500 professional development grant through co-op
- There are new financial and trustee guides from Library of Michigan, they are online and copies will be sent to each library

Business:

- A survey went out to the co-op which gave directors the opportunity to express what they like about services. Overwhelming support for our services all according to each library's needs.
- No one is happy with RIDES surcharge. We had 2 in the last year for a total of \$4500. We do not have it in the budget to pay right now. Discussion on if we should add it to the budget or just absorb it at each individual library. We anticipate a renegotiation of the contract for next year which will hopefully include the surcharge so it might not be a problem. Decision was made to leave it alone for now and discuss again when the new price comes in.

Next meeting is at Beaver Island August 17th is now **rescheduled** for Tuesday the 15th. Meet at 8 am, park at the library and walk to Bibco. This is a 1 hour 45 minute ferry trip one way. Linda will contact the co-op with details about the day including schedule and meals.

What is happening at your library

Mark Bronson (Cheboygan Area Public Library) events: Peep Dioramas included 80 entries. Community voted and prizes were given out. Very popular. Working on life sized Candyland to use in June. The door count is up to pre pandemic number. The board hired Bryan Mortimore to do the director search. Previously we had only one applicant. Looking for vendors for solar projects. This is Marks last meeting. He is retiring in June. He is getting involved in city government.

Ryan Deery (Charlevoix Public Library): Fully staffed, finished draft budget. Sumer is fully planned. Excited about a new inclusive summer reading program

Leanne Milliman (Crooked Tree District Library) Staff challenges, full board, budget season and summer reading plans

Judy Jacalone (Topinabee Library) staff of one, husband is helping add train themed accessories to the library (the library is located in an old train depot) Getting ready for summer reading.

Pamela Williams (Elk Rapids District Library) Plant exchange, finishing one card program with middle school extending it to rest of schools in the fall. Collaboration with Bellaire Library received a 10K grand traverse rotary seed grant. "Write Here, Write Now" Antrim county Michigan author project. Author visit, writing workshop, national writer series with teens and an art installation based on writings produced by that author. Moved whole collection and working on the building. Strategic Plan will be completed this summer.

Denise Bearre (Alcona County Library): Curtis is the new contracted branch of Alcona County library. Signed a deed so both land and building are owned by the Curtis library. Finally, fully staffed. Redoing nonfiction section

John Roberts (Kalkaska County Library) starting two township libraries starting this fall in Garfield twp. and Cold Springs Township in village halls. Services starting in the fall. 2024 on ballot for millage increase. Underserved areas will have access using McNaughton. Exploring collaboration in supplying simple phones that might meet the needs of the elderly population who might not want all the connection on social media. Considering ideas on how to help teens deal with social media bullying. One idea is a social media moratorium by libraries for a specific period.

Kelsey Rutkowski (Indian River Area Library) hiring new employees in May. Working with new board members.

Michelle Howard (TADL) got a new sign, and are so much busier. Over 200 new cards a month at the main library. Tee Time - Putt putt in library was very successful. Working with jail diversion teen program that will provide volunteer opportunity.

Susan Warner (Wolverine library) Buying the building so programs are on standstill, not sure if construction will happen. Successful seed program gave away 600 packets.

Motion to adjourn 12:26

Submitted by Pamela Williams
Elk Rapids District Library