

**Northland Library Coopera
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Oscoda County Library
Sep 21, 2023**

Introduction of Members:

Members Present:

Val Meyerson (Petoskey District Library),
John Roberts (Kalkaska County Library),
Amber Alexander (Presque Isle District Library),
Monica Peck (Boyne District Library),
Sue Warner (Wolverine Community Library),
Kelsey Rutkowski (Indian River Area Library),

Linda Adams (Northland Library Cooperative Director)
Michele Howard (Traverse Area District Library),
Ryan Deery (Charlevoix Public Library),
Pam Williams (Elk Rapids District Library)
Brice Bush (Cheboygan Area Public Library)
Leanne Milliman (Crooked Tree District Library)

Amy Knepp (Oscoda County Library),
Denise Bearre (Alcona County Library)

Linda Adams (Northland Library Cooperative Director)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 am by President, Val Meyerson.

Approval of Agenda:

The Agenda was approved by consensus.

Approval of Minutes:

J. Roberts made a motion to accept the August 15, 2023 Minutes, seconded by R. Deery. After discussion, the minutes will be amended. Both parties amended their motion and support. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Reports

- **August 2023 Financial Report** L. Adams presented the financials noting nothing was outstanding except that we are under budget.
- **FY 22-23 Budget Amendment Review:** L. Adams presented the budget amendments. It is essentially the same as what was presented at the August meeting. It was motioned by M. Peck and seconded by S. Warner to recommend adoption by the Board.
- **FY 23-24 Proposed Budget** L. Adams presented the budget. It is essentially the same as what was presented at the August meeting. It was motioned by Kemp and seconded by Deery to recommend adoption by the Board.

Directors Report:

Linda reviewed her presented report, noting the following:

- Explained some of the changes in the banking to make accounts work better with Nicolet bank and MI Class.
- Linda talked to someone from BiblioBoard. It sounded good but Amy K. tried it and it didn't get much usage. Amber mentioned that historical photos can be added to the Library of Michigan website. Reach out to Biz Gallo.

Business:

- **Director Review:** Howard thanked Kemp, Bearre, and Williams for their assistance with the Director Review. The Director received excellent scores and comments. The committee is recommending the COLA raise as stated in the Director Contract.

- **Reciprocal Lending Agreements:** Meyerson reviewed some of the problems with the current Reciprocal Lending Agreement including some problems stemming from the PAC2 agreement. A committee was formed (Rutkowski, Knepp and Jodi Haven) to work on this agreement.
- **eRate Category 2 Funding:** This is hardware funding for the internet. NLC has never done Cat2 funding. Monica contacted a consultant about getting Category 2 funding. Right now, Cat 2 funding is guaranteed. After some discussion, Linda has a list of who is interested. She will reach out to the consultant who will go around and determine everyone's needs. To be clear, the consultant is not IT staff, he will just be determining needs.
- **Advisory Council election and Meeting Dates:** Potential slate of candidates was listed in the Advisory Council Packet. It was motioned by D. Bearre and seconded by P. Williams to recommend adoption by the Board.

What's happening at your library?

Kelsey: Has new programs to be excited about including Teen D&D, paws to read with the local school. The school came to Kelsey which is great!

Pam: Looking at a building to move to which is an old manufacturing building. Doing environmental and engineering studies, and an RFP with architects. This is a short timeline; it must be decided by January. Pam received the Dollar General grant and a grant for 1,000 before kindergarten. Working with schools (they are the acting middle school library). Disappointed about the state of school libraries.

Michele: They just finished a Bathroom remodel RFP but only received one bid. Finishing the front yard of the library!

Brice: Is the new Director of Cheboygan Public Library. She is meeting people in the community. Observing and making changes. If you read the news, they had to close because of the fire.

Amber: Enhancement grant paid for an awning at Onaway. The Marquee done at the theater. On Friday Sept 26th at 6:30 they are having a light turning on event. Keep moving forward.

Sue: Fiber at the library!!! Grant from Cheboygan County Commission to buy the new building. Unfortunately, there was an error in paperwork, so the attorney is working on this. They are the public and school librarians. The School buses kids to Wolverine since the schools tore out school libraries.

Leanne: Happy it is after summer! Summer increased at all summer programs which is great. Planning halloween and christmas. All is good!

Denise: Curtis needs to do the millage process. School does fund the library to take care of the collection. Doing well is just a little stressful.

John: John will reach out to Pam for some building issues. Kalkaska is involved heavily in the schools.

Amy: Her programming clerk moved. Internal staff applied for the job and are killing it. They were offered a building in Fairfield to replace the current branch. Exciting!

Ryan: Hosting NLM exhibit and it is very cool medicine/harry potter panels. Staff decorated the space and felt transformed. Month of programming: 1 per week for adults; and for kids. Harry potter party: tons of costumes. Great response! Staff members did this and it was a great experience.

Monica: Finished 5-year strategic plan by True North consulting. 12 member staff with 7 new and 1 on leave. City Commission forum - none is supportive of banning books!

Petoskey: Lots of construction and physical work building work. One bidder 3x as expensive. Hopefully done in the next 4-6 weeks. Petoskey Film Series is back. Group takes care of everything. And bringing back Readers Theater. Partnering with Civic Theater. Weekly meetings and monthly performances. Tweens to adults. Tutoring program partnering with school: Added title nights. Has become HUGE. 8 kids to 50 kids. School is paying for tutors. Summer is great and fall is great.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12:24 pm.

The next scheduled Advisory Board meeting is October 26, 2023, at 10:30am at the Peninsula Community Library.

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