

Northland Library Cooperative
Advisory Council Minutes

October 26, 2023

Present:

Lori Haas, Montmorency

Leanne Milliman, Crooked Tree

Michelle Howard, TADL

Brice Bush, Cheboygan

Nellie Danke, Sutton Bay

Vicky Shurly, Peninsula

Val Meyerson, Petoskey

Linda Adams, Northland Co-op

John Roberts, Kalkaska

Jennifer Thomet, Interlochen

Ryan Deery, Charlevoix

Kelsey Rutkowski, Indian River

Amber Alexander, Presque Isle

Meeting of the Advisory Council was called to order at 10:35 by VP Ryan Deery.

Motion was made by Michelle Howard and seconded by John Roberts to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Michelle Howard and seconded by Vicki Shurly to accept the minutes with correction to the Director line item. Motion carried.

Directors Report

October 2023

FY 23-24 NLC Services List: See updates and new enhancement grant eligibility.

eRate Update: Five libraries expressed an interest in Category 1 funding (internet service discounts) and eight asked to be evaluated on their needs for Category 2 funding. It's all in process now.

UP Professional Development Day – NLC expressed interest in collaborating on this professional development day in the UP with the understanding it would be held close to the bridge and that early Spring would be the best time of year for us (no mid-summer).

Superiorland got back to me and agreed to a late April/early May date on the eastern end of the UP. The focus is on an in-person learning opportunity for directors. Would anyone like to

help planning? A committee is being formed with Superiorland, MLA and NLC and will meet remotely.

MLA Annual Conference was held in Kalamazoo on October 18-20. 10 NLC members attended. I attended programs on How to Use Collaborations to Overcome Funding Challenges (Kudos to John Roberts), Crisis management and Communications, an Advocacy Update (kudos to Val Meyerson) and a Human Centered Approach to Designing Library Services. I also have the materials from the Library Fundraising session. Congratulations to Nisa Kessler, who was honored at the Awards Ceremony for providing Outstanding Youth Services at the Petoskey District Library.

2024 PLA Annual Conference is in Columbus Ohio, April 3-5 – registration opened October 11. Up North Digital eMagazines renewed for 2024 at a cost of \$25,000. TADL will also update their subscription and NLC will reimburse them.

Reciprocal Borrowing Update: Committee met to make updates to the NLC RB agreement. It has been added to the agenda for discussion. Any changes would need to be approved by the board and signed by each participating library with an effective date.

Book Doctor program is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7 at the Otsego County Library. Learn how to repair books. You will be given the option of two sessions: 10 am-1pm or 2 pm-5 pm. Limit of 40 per session. Demco will provide all the materials except everyone needs to bring scissors. Registration will start this winter.

NLC Youth Staff are interested in doing quarterly zoom meetings to discuss and share ideas. We have a list of staff but need all libraries to review and add people as needed. Linda will coordinate a meeting via zoom before the end of the year.

NLC Circ Staff started similar meetings this year and are working on the best format for the meetings.

The State Aid Reporting Window is open. Please submit your report as soon as possible.

LM has updated their Beginning Workshop: The goal is to offer the practical skills needed for working in a public library. For those seeking an initial Level 3 or Level 4 library staff certification from the Library of Michigan, completion of the Beginning Workshop course is obligatory. What is new? New training animations, updated content, all in one tutorial!

The next LM Library Law Office Hours will be held on Thursday NOVEMBER 16, 2023 @ 3:00pm. Register for NOVEMBER's Library Law Office Hours via this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqdO6uqD8pEt31yRiFFRZkHDc96mWbdiT>

If anyone has a question for November, please e-mail Clare: membielac@michigan.gov

Advocacy: Look for a new bill being introduced that would attach to the Elliot Larson Civil Rights Act and make it unlawful to remove library materials based on any civil rights issue. MLA will have more information coming soon.

LM/UMSI 2024 Cohort Opportunity: In May 2023, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the World Health Organization formally ended COVID-19 as a global health emergency, formally ending three years of unprecedented changes to public libraries. What comes next for us? How do we reconnect with community members so we can better attune our services, maintain our foundational ideals in a changed landscape, tell more compelling stories of libraries' access and impact, communicate more effectively with others, and bring staff along as we forge a "new normal" for our communities? Join the Library of Michigan and the University of Michigan School of Information (UMSI) as we explore these and other questions in this free program for Michigan public library directors.

We will select 100 Michigan public library directors based on application to join us for monthly meetings from January - December 2024. Participants will be divided into 25-member cohorts based on library class size for monthly meetings over Zoom.

Each session focuses on a different angle of libraries' "new normal" and features speakers from the field, communication and strategic experts, targeted activities, and open conversation. Additionally, each participant will receive a customized training session with communications experts from Hennes Communications, who will prepare them to better respond to challenging and difficult conversations, and can take advantage of a short community survey with analysis by UMSI.

At the end of 12 months, each participant will share advice and celebrate growth by participating in a short presentation at either a free face-to-face conference at the Library of Michigan (March 21, 2025) or a free virtual conference (April 25, 2025), where they'll mingle and learn with those from the other cohorts.

Workshop costs, conference hotel rooms, and a modest travel stipend are paid for by the Library of Michigan. Applications are due Monday, November 20, at noon Eastern. Participants will be notified by December 24, 2023. To learn more, read our FAQ.

Reciprocal Borrowing changes/updates will require individual Board approval within the next six months. Motion made by Amber seconded by Ryan to send changes/updates on to the Board. Motion carried.

What's going on at your library?

John-Everything is fine!

Val-construction should be done in a couple of weeks.

Nellie-good Friends involvement. Regular programming schedule. Community room being updated.

Michelle-1.1 mil for 10 years will be on the August ballot.

Lori-expansion of main library. Fine arts program in elementary schools.

Vicki-building repairs, Successful summer reading program.

Brice-settling in. Haunted house programming planned.

Jennifer-new shelving in adult fiction. Working on received ALA grant. Halloween party.

Kelsey-Board vacancy/challenges. Some issues with an employee not completing tasks.

Leanne-comments on "woke" materials. One unfriendly Friend trying to cause problems.

Amber-Successful lighting of the theatre. Still has an unfinished wall and issues of cameras being unlawfully installed.

Ryan-20 year operating millage going on the ballot next August. New staff are settling in nicely and doing great.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:23.

Respectfully submitted

Leanne Milliman

Advisory Council Secretary