

NLC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2006

Sarah Allaire	Mackinaw area Public Library
Karen Sherrard	Petoskey Public Library
Jennifer Dean	Northland Library Cooperative
Sue Warner	Wolverine Community Library
Carol Luck	Alcona County Library
Nannette Miller	Boyne District Library
Maureen Derenzy	Otsego County Library
Dawn Pringle	Jordan Valley District Library
Jan Stevenson	Presque Isle District Library
Mark Bronson	Cheboygan Area Public Library
Susan Conklin	Crooked Tree District Library
Cindy Lou Poquette	Indian River Area Library
Bambi Mansfield-Sanderson	Crawford County Library System
Patti Webb	Gerrish-Higgins School District Public Library

The meeting was called to order by Jan Stevenson at 10:38am.

Jennifer added two items to New Business: MLA Conference and E-Rate training.

Bambi made a motion to approve the agenda with the added items, Karen Sherrard supported. The motion passed unanimously.

Cindy Lou Poquette made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction, Nannette Miller was not at the May meeting, Sue Warner supported the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer lead a discussion of the dispersal of Penal Fines to libraries. Jennifer has visited some county courthouses to discuss penal fine collection. Libraries need to gain access to the transmittals from the court. Jennifer will work with a committee to create a form letter to present to the county requesting the information so that each of us is asking for the same information. A point was made that we need to ask what is the difference between the split that goes to the court and what part goes to the library.

Jennifer is continuing with staff changes at NLC offices. Maria will be the ILL contact.

The cooperative is starting MeL delivery after Labor Day.

Ernie and Tram grant application form will be available on the LM website.

Cooperative directors met in Alpena in June; they are working on a plan to increase collaboration.

Northland Internet service will be suspended at the end of September.

NLC Board members had a discussion about working more closely with the directors. At the joint meeting a facilitator will be there to discuss lines of communication between the Board and the Advisory Council.

Maureen made a motion to create a committee, chaired by Cindy Lou, to establish a form and procedure to track penal fines, supported by Nannette Miller. The motion passed unanimously. The committee will include Cindy Lou, Maureen, Nannette, and Bambi.

Jennifer gave a report on the current budget; NLC is basically on track. Budget target was met for Internet service. Reserve balance has principally accumulated from Internet service. After the Internet service ends the amount of accumulated funds will not continue to grow.

Jennifer provided copies of the proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

LBPH funding is separate from the NLC budget. The option to phase out LBPH, with the service continuing from another center, has been discussed previously and is always under consideration.

Jennifer provided a budget change sheet; there will be no PAC2 staff in the budget. Community Colleges have questions about the changes in ILL service through the Cooperative and how the changes will affect them.

Jennifer reported that she believes that the reserve balance will be sufficient for about three years. There is also the possibility of selling the Cooperative building.

There are concerns about finding additional new sources of revenue.

Karen Sherrard made a motion to recommend to the Board the new funding lines for the NLC budget, Jan Stevenson supported. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about the changing Plan of Service, Board rotation and membership in the Cooperative.

Jennifer will contact members about LSTA grant via email.

PAC2 has been discussing contracts with the Cooperative and its legal entity status.

Reports from Libraries.

Jan - they passed their millage and purchased property in Grand Lake for a Branch library (pigs do fly), she showed a new library brochure.

Carol - they had a very busy summer program.

Patti - she is now officially the library director and preparing for the school year to start.

Maureen - literary program re-energized, 10 students and 25 tutors.

Bambi - she and staff member will be presenting at the MLA fall conference.

Sue - Summer reading program was very busy.

Sarah - the library is interested in re-establishing connections with the public school and increasing use of the library.

Nannette - they have seen expanded children use of computers, circulation is up dramatically, and Cliff Carey is their new Asst. Director

Susan - summer reading program was a success, they are working on the expansion of the Boyne Falls branch.

Cindy Lou - they had an expanded summer reading program with 2 hours per week, did festivals of the world. Their millage renewal passed which will get them back to their original millage.

Dawn - has a whole new board as of June 30, 2006, things are improving.

Mark - Internet use up, Newsletter started, and grand Opening on August 26th.

End of NLC meeting.

Gretchen Couraud, Executive Director of MLA, presented the future plans of the association including advocacy and future development, fund raising, and philanthropy.

Nancy Robertson, State Librarian, asked for input on what libraries need from the Library of Michigan. She is attending meetings throughout the state to familiarize herself with the library community.

There was a dialogue about the future of cooperatives. They need to be here in some fashion but need to find what are their current uses and needs. There is a need to modernize with the library community. Looking at the guidelines for the state aid formula and updating state aid formulas.

Gretchen discussed training of directors about advocacy and providing information on tax capture issues.

Nancy reported that Gates money is coming, there is an FAQ on the LM website.

They have a new contract with Martha McKee to continue with the QSAC certification process.

PLFIG has concluded their task and have turned their vision over to MLA.

New board is in place, talking about focusing efforts, and re-structuring MLA over the next few years.

The meeting adjourned at 3:09pm.