

**Minutes, Northland Library Cooperative Board of Trustees
January 8, 2008, Otsego County Library, Gaylord, MI.**

Attending: Rita James, Phil Curtiss, Karen Heide, Hugh Conklin, H. Grace Micketti, Marcia Monette, LaVerne Greenwood.

Absent: Mayford Meixell (excused), Marcia Armstrong (excused).

Staff: Roger Mendel

Visitors: Val Meyerson, Maureen Derenzy, Elden Johnson.

Call to Order: Chair Rita James called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call: By sign-in.

Public Comment: Rita James asked for comments from the public. Roger Mendel read a thank you note from former staff that had been taken out to lunch in December. Certificates of Appreciation and gift cards were presented to the three staff members.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Hugh Conklin, seconded by Phil Curtiss that the Agenda be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Phil Curtiss, seconded by Marcia Monette that the minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Financial Report: In the absence of our Treasurer, Roger Mendel gave the report on the finances of the cooperative. Moved by Marcia Monette, seconded by Karen Heide, to accept and file the financial report subject to audit. Motion carried.

Audit Report: Mendel briefly reviewed the audit report for fiscal year 2006-07. He noted that it was an unqualified report and that everything was in order. There was some discussion regarding the payback from the sale of the Internet service. At this point we do not expect much in payback, since many of the subscribers have dropped the service with the new provider. Moved by Phil Curtiss, seconded by Grace Micketti that the audit report be approved and filed with the proper agencies in the State of Michigan. Motion carried.

Update on the building: The building was vacated on December 20. All furniture and equipment have been distributed to members and to the general public. Records and papers have been placed in storage and a final walk-through by the new owner was done on December 19. There was a question about the environmental study. Rita indicated that she saw a preliminary report at the closing for the sale of the building and that the report does not disclose any additional responsibility for the cooperative.

Reorganization report: Val Meyerson, Vice President of the Advisory Council and a member of the State Librarian's committee on reorganization of the cooperatives and state funding gave the board an update on current models suggested for reorganization of cooperatives. She answered questions in the discussion that followed, and requested that feedback and suggestions be forwarded to the State librarian; Nancy Robertson is a

timely manner. Roger indicated that he would supply the board members with his comments on the plan by the next board meeting.

Fund Balance: Rita James brought up the topic of the cooperative's fund balance. With the sale of the building and savings from staffing costs the cooperative has a healthy fund balance. With the changes that are on the horizon for cooperatives in this state Rita indicated that we should form a committee to review the fund balance and offer some ideas for using the funds to benefit the member libraries as well as to save funds for expenses related to closing down the cooperative or assisting in the start up of a new cooperative. Rita will appoint three board members to this committee and asked that Roger to get 4 librarians to serve on the committee.

Next meeting: Alcona County Library, Harrisville Branch February 20.

Motion to adjourn was made by Marcia Monette, seconded by Phil Curtiss. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: LaVerne Greenwood.