

NORTHLAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
Board of Trustees Meeting
Cheboygan Area Public Library
March 14, 2007

Attending: Rita James, Elden Johnson, Mayford Meixell, Warren Meyer, Grace Micketti, Jeri Selthoffer

Not Attending: LaVerne Greenwood, Karen Heide, Marcia Armstrong

Also Attending: Jennifer Dean

Chair Elden Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Building sale proposal was moved to information and correspondence was added. Meixell moved to accept the agenda with changes. seconded by James; motion carried.

Meixell moved to approve the minutes of February 20, 2007 meeting, seconded by James; motion carried.

The board discussed the joint workshop. In sum: no decision to dissolve the Northland cooperative has been made. There are ongoing discussions at the state level about funding cuts, but nothing definitive; there is a need to hire a permanent or interim director, which could affect the location of the cooperative business office; the state is continuing to discuss the future of cooperatives, including realigning boundary lines, membership, and roles; and we must determine the future of the subregional library for the blind and physically handicapped. Although no specific recommendations were made by the Advisory Council members, there appeared to be general agreement from members that the April 30 deadline to submit a letter of intent to leave the cooperative should be extended. After much discussion, Meixell moved to extend the deadline to May 31 for the 2006-7 fiscal year only, seconded by Selthoffer; motion carried.

The board discussed a private offer presented to Dean and Meixell for the Northland building. The presentation was made on the private party's own initiative; the board had made no decision to sell the building and had not solicited the offer. While the offer seemed fair, the general consensus was that more investigation should be done before making any decision; specifically, what obligation does the cooperative have to publicly list the property? Some board members felt very strongly that if and when the board makes the decision to sell the building, it be professionally appraised and advertised publicly for other possible offers. Overall, based on the workshop discussion, the board felt it did not make sense to sell the office building and relocate at this point in time. The board directed Dean to notify the interested party that they may be interested in the

offer but need more time to work through the process, and to find answers to questions posed by the board.

The board discussed a proposal made to Chair Johnson by White Pine Library Cooperative Director Bryon Sitler; Sitler has expressed an interest in providing interim leadership for the cooperative. The board will make the interim committee aware of this offer so that they can consider it along with other options.

The board discussed options for additional reimbursement for remaining Northland staff. After much discussion, James moved to set aside a total of \$4,000 to be used for bonus awards at the end of the fiscal year, seconded by Micketti; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.



LA VERNE GREENWOOD, SECRETARY