

**WHITE PINE LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes, August, 1, 2007

Welcome: Rose Rice Gutierrez welcomed those in attendance. Members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes: Ruth Ann Steffen moved to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2007 meeting. Marsha Boyd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Director's Report: Bryon reported that:

Capital Library Cooperative is closing the end of August. Woodlands and White Pine are sharing some of the supplies that are available.

He has been working on revising the current budget and the budget for FY 2008.

He attended open houses at Clare and Alma for their new buildings.

The Annual meeting will be held on October 10th at Horizons Conference Center. George Needham will speak on "The Future of Libraries."

5 people will be going off the board in September. The new members will be seated at the October board meeting.

Legislators were contacted about releasing State Aid funds.

Federal Senators were contacted to ask them to support SB215 maintaining net neutrality. (Phone companies want to charge a fee for any internet activity that goes across their lines).

State Aid has been put back to budgeted levels. The first checks were mailed June 18th. The second check is expected to be mailed August 15th. The rate for next year will be .1984.

Bryon is also working on re-doing library profiles so that they will include QSAC standards.

The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the library in Bloomfield Township vs George Goldstone. This means that Mr. Goldstone does not have free access to all the materials in the state. Bryon was interviewed on CMU Public Radio. The subject matter was how libraries reacted to Bloomfield vs George Goldstone.

Future of Cooperatives: Nancy Robertson & Bryon Sitler lead a discussion on the future of Cooperatives.

Members were asked to keep in mind the following:

What services should Cooperatives offer?
How should they be organized?
How should they be funded?

The Cooperative Director's Association has come up with the following core services that all Cooperatives should offer statewide. (Cooperatives could offer more than the 5 core services if they wish).

Continuing Education
Technology Support
Library Development
Group Discounts
Support Services = Administration & Staff

Comments/Questions:

Should funding for Cooperatives come from part or all of state monies?

How should Cooperatives be organized? Boundaries/borders?

“White Pine is great because we are all similar. If boundaries are set the picture would change. The state should not be allowed to set the borders.”

“What about libraries that want to join a Cooperative but are turned down? There needs to be some kind of mechanism that ensures that libraries get to join a Cooperative.”

“There needs to be some kind of legislation to say that cooperatives will be open to all libraries.”

“The current way is flexible. Boundaries need to be kept flexible.”

“Small libraries need to be on top of advocacy and legislative issues. If all libraries are kept informed of these issues there is more power in numbers. Hands might be tied if Cooperative directors become employees of the State. The cooperative director is important as an outside voice.”

“Cooperatives provide services efficiently which is a cost benefit. If libraries need to purchase services on their own more dollars will be spent.”

Nancy would like to see fewer cooperatives in the state, 6? She would also like to see monies go to services rather than administrative costs.

“Cooperatives provide CE, meetings, networking opportunities – traveling more than 2 hours to attend the above would be too much.” “Fewer Cooperatives would equal farther travel distances.”

“State aid monies could pay for delivery and databases for the whole state.”

“Could Class IV and down join Cooperatives and V and VI’s have the option to opt out?”

“School library service is decreasing. Students now come to the public libraries. Libraries and education do go together. Libraries are a big part of education.”

“How will closing cooperatives save money?”

“How will cooperatives be funded?”

“Rewrite the law?”

Hudson Bay Book Store program: Leena Palmer presented information on an online bookstore customized to fit the needs of individual libraries and would generate additional funding, and promote special events.

Libraries need to commit for one year.

Members of WPLC will be given a 50% discount off the first year subscription service (\$150.00 savings).

Used material databases are available as an additional service.

Call or e-mail WPLC for contact information.

Technology Plan: A revision of the previous plan was reviewed. Mary Chasseur moved to approve the technology plan. Mimi Herrington seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Plan of Service: White Pine’s 2008 Plan of Service has been changed to include the new member libraries. Lise Mitchell moved to forward the Plan of Service to the White Pine Board for approval. Stephanie Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Budget FY 07 & 08 Review:

The current budget is currently being revised. Final revisions will be approved by the board in September.

Staff has currently reduced hours and dropped spouses from health benefits in order to save money towards next year’s budget.

Stephanie Olson moved to recommend the 2007-2008 budget to the board. Marsha Boyd seconded the motion. Motion carried.