

Board report August, 2016

Rural Libraries Conference: 26 people from the WPLC area attended the Conference. WPLC sponsored 15 people. Since the budget was for 25 people, there are \$4,724 remaining.

OverDrive statistics: Audiobooks average is about \$55. E-book is about \$19.06.

I have been doing a lot of collection development with the titles in OverDrive, determining which expired metered titles need to be re-ordered because of requests and determining which titles have been recalled by OverDrive and whether or not they can / should be replaced.

Fuelyourmind.org is being deleted due to lack of use.

I have been in discussion with the Cloud Library for potential use rather than OverDrive.

World Book has given us a quote for use of its on-line resources.

I've been working on lining up speakers for several meetings, and arranging locations for the "Meet the candidate" get-togethers as well as sending out invitations to the candidates. I have prepared "introduction" sheets for each library to hand out to candidates and legislators. I have prepared packets per legislative district to give to each candidate or legislator.

Four new Board members have agreed to serve on the WPLC board starting October 1, 2016 for a 2-year term. They are:

Sandra Johnson, Howe Memorial Library, Breckenridge;

Danielle Reid, Reese Unity District Library;

Abby Hill, Thompson Home Public Library, Ithaca and

Malisa Pyles, Watertown Township Library, Fostoria.

The necessary paperwork has been sent to each new member/board.

Met with Tomas King from and Clancy Cline, channel 66, concerning potential PR activities for the members.

Discussed technology discounts with Ron Walters.

Reviewed the Plan of Service and various White Pine policies for revision.

Millage results – renewals / increase

Gladwin County District Library	Pass	.5 mil	10 years
Briggs District Library	Pass	.75	10 years
Fairhaven Township (Huron)	Pass	.2	4 years
Sherman Township Library	Pass	.75	5 years
Merrill District Library	Pass	.8	10 years
Sanilac County Libraries	Pass	.2	4 years
Aitken Mem. District Library	Pass	.79	10 years
Columbia Township Library	Pass	1	4 years

I have registered for the: Deep Reading, Learning, and the Impact of Digitization workshop
September 30, 2016

9:30 am – 4:00 pm Lansing Community College West Campus

And the MLA Annual Conference.

A schedule for the Meet the Candidates sessions has been set. It is:

District 70 No response yet

Wednesday September 7, 2016, 10:00 to noon

Alma Public Library

District 83 No response yet

Monday September 19, 2:00 – 4:00pm

Sandusky District Library

District 84 James Wencel will attend.

Monday September 19, 10:00 – noon

Rawson Memorial Library, Cass City

District 85 No response yet
Friday September 16, 10:00 - noon
Community District Library, Corunna

District 93 No session planned since we spoke with both Candidates before. Updates were mailed to them on library activities.

District 94 No response yet
Wednesday October 4, 10:00 - noon
Thomas Township Library, Saginaw

District 95 No session planned. Updates were mailed to Candidates on library activities.

District 97 No response yet
Tuesday October 4, 10:00 – noon
Pere Marquette District Library, Clare

District 99

Chippewa River District Library, Mt. Pleasant

District 103 No response yet
Tuesday September 27 10:00 – noon
Houghton Lake Public Library

District 106

Alpena County Library

LM has signed a contract with Zepheira for the MeLCat database. This will convert the MeLCat database into Bibframe format – one that Google can read. Google cannot read MARC format.

Reminder that the New Directors' Workshop is at the Hanna Center in E. Lansing rather than at the Library of Michigan.

LM has announced that there will be around of LSTA grants this fall. The minimum will be \$50,000. Requirements are not complete yet, but will be announced later. The due date for the grants will be in January, 2017 with awards announced in March 2017. Remember when writing a grant, legislators will usually write a letter of support – use them also for the Library of Excellence Award that will be awarded at MLA (deadline has been put back to September 27, due to low application rate).

Tax Capture issues will be taken up this fall in the Legislature. At some point, MLA may ask that we contact our legislators about tax captures. Statewide, the captures get over \$10,000,000 in library tax dollars. The changes in the legislation could be very important to many libraries.

Tax Capture talking points:

MLA has prepared a few points for when talking to legislators. They are attached at the end of this report.

Book Sale: <http://www.booksalefinder.com/MI.html>

This web site allows you to post your book sales and to let patrons find more they can travel to if they choose.



SB 579, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624 Support Dedicated Library Millages

Libraries Provide Essential Community Resources

The 396 Michigan Public Libraries serve children, teens and adults who last year made 53 million visits to the library to use computers, attend classes and participate in summer reading programs.

Our libraries provide computer access for state business, Secretary of State's driver license and registration renewals, Michigan Works, Federal tax filing, job hunting and career building along with providing small business resources. For many Michigan residents, a public library is their only means of Internet access.

Libraries are unique in how they are supported and millages are critical to library funding.

- **On average, 78% of library funding comes from locally dedicated special library millages.**
- Voters go to the polls and choose to support their libraries by approving a dedicated library millage.
- These locally dedicated taxes — approved by voters for library funding — are being captured against the libraries' choice without the locally voting taxpayer's knowledge or approval.
- When proposed special library millages disclose the required tax capture allocation, the millages are often defeated.

In one example: 116 Tax Captures are taking \$3,026,236 from 49 libraries each year. This encompasses just 13% of our public libraries.

Voters in the city of Litchfield with 1,300 residents approved a 1-mill levy to support their library. 47% or \$28,000 of that library's \$60,000 annual budget is captured by a TIFA.

At South Haven Memorial Library, a total of 13 distinct tax capture districts siphon taxes from the dedicated library millage: \$36,499 or 16% of their operating budget is captured each year.

Voters want accountability and transparency

This new legislation would allow libraries to determine if tax capture is right for their patrons.

- Libraries should have the option of participating in tax captures. The tax captures should be transparent in their activities, explain their value to library boards and then request an opt-in from libraries.
- If there is already a bond attached to the tax capture district, the bills would not eliminate the tax capture. We understand that debt has to be repaid.
- We ask for support of these bills because they support taxpayer accountability, tax capture transparency and ensure dedicated library millages go to support the voters' choice.