

**WHITE PINE LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes, September 10, 2008

Welcome: Rose Rice Gutierrez welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.

1. **Minutes:** Stephanie Olson moved to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2008 meeting. Jeanette Bach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. **Director's Report:** Bryon Sitler reported that:
 - The Cooperative Director's will be meeting at White Pine on Friday, September 12th. Topics of discussion include:

PR campaign: At least 3 other cooperatives have expressed interest in joining in with White Pine to market libraries across the state. The PR firm will make a presentation to them on September 12th.

Future of Cooperatives: The State Librarian will present another model affecting Cooperatives. The State Library's model will be presented for fiscal year 2010.

 - **Original Cataloging:** White Pine has entered into an agreement with TLN to provide original cataloging for members. The cost will be \$14.00 an item. A record will be provided so that VLC members can attach their holdings. Contact Jane Piersall for more information.

 - **Annual Meeting:** White Pine's Annual Meeting will be held October 8, 2008 at the Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw. Joe Mika will do a Color Presentation: How to work with your co-workers. This workshop is ideal for staff training. Shutta Crum will also speak on the writing process and there will be a book signing.

 - **Peck Community Schools:** is working with Elk Township Library to improve their library.

 - **Workshops:** Upcoming workshops include Excel and Word, both basic and intermediate. Check WPLC's web site for details. A Trustee's Training workshop will be held on September 20, 2008 at White Pine Headquarters. Topics include Budget and the Legal Issues of Hiring, Supervising and Termination.

3. **Legislative Candidates:** Garnet Lewis (running for the 98th District).

Background: She works at Central Michigan University, College of Education. She is an educator.

Intellectual Freedom: She supports it. Her philosophy is – “You cannot withhold the right to read it. You don’t have to read it, but don’t withhold it.”

Comments from members:

“School districts get increases but public libraries are still operating on 32 cents per person. When the schools get cut, public libraries then serve those students and are given no increases.”

“Libraries serve educational roles in their communities. They are becoming local service centers and are becoming referral agencies.”

“Libraries are no longer traditional.”

Funding:

Garnet: “The State Budget needs to be re-structured. What programs mean the most to you? How well do libraries promote and market what they do? Would it help to put libraries back into the Department of Education?”

Comments from members:

“Libraries are being forced towards more local funding. Patrons have to pay.”

“Penal fines are unstable.”

Broadband Services:

Garnet: “Broadband should not be selected. It should be made available to everyone.”

Kathy Wilton and Tim Moore also responded in writing. Their responses were passed around for the group to read.

4. Rules:

Rules: (6) If a public library has contracted with a municipality for the provision of library service and the total local support for the legal service area population is less than the minimum local support requirement mandate in section 5(a) of the act, MCL 397.555(a), each governmental unit comprising the legal service area population may be treated as a separate unit and each unit shall meet the minimum support requirement prescribed in section 5(a) of the act, MCL 397.555(a).

Members discussed the requirement that townships would have to pay the 3/10 of mil requirement.

If townships/contractual areas refuse to pay or meet the 3/10 of a mil libraries would lose their state aid and penal fines. The contractual areas would become unserved populations. An increase in unserved population would not look good.

It was recommended that libraries contact their townships to see if they are aware of this requirement and find out what they think about it.

The rules may also affect Continuing Education in the State. If passed, all certification requirements would be done away with except for the Beginning Workshop presented by the Library of Michigan. This would conflict with QSAC requirements.

It was recommended that members e-mail Gretchen at MLA and notify her that if Continuing Education is no longer a requirement then MLA membership could become endangered.

MLC workshops would also decline.

It was recommended that Randy Dykhuis be contacted to see if he is aware of the new rule.

The rules will be posted in the Michigan Registry for 60 days and then sent to the Secretary of State and become effective 7 days thereafter. The rules have not yet been posted to the Michigan Registry. Bryon will notify membership when they are posted. This would be the time to make comments.

Nick Bozen has been invited to discuss the new rules at the Cooperative Director's meeting in October.

5. Other:

Jim Rancilio asked members how they collect money or books that are overdue.

Bryon reported that state laws say that nonpayment of overdues is a misdemeanor meaning that the police could be called for help with collection.

Bryon will send a copy of the law out to everyone.

Chesaning reported that they used a credit service to help recover items or unpaid fines. They take a percentage only if they recover the item or costs are paid.

