

**Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative
Joint MMLC Board and Advisory Council Meeting
May 17, 2007**

MMLC Director Roger Mendel called the May 17, 2007 meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Roger invited guests to enjoy the meal catered by Creative Catering.

Roger introduced George Needham, Vice President of OCLC, and former State Librarian of Michigan. George presented a report on the Environmental Scan of libraries. George talked about the impact of the reduced financial support of the basic infrastructure of government. George then discussed how libraries have the unique ability to collaborate with libraries across the nation with a seamless ease. Libraries need to re-evaluate and re-define their identity with the public to establish what the role of libraries is in today's community and today's society. George suggested libraries need to: 1.) focus on the users; 2.) link to education; 3.) showcase benefits of the institution; 4.) talk about success stories not statistics; 5.) dump the library jargon. Use the technology and statistics to encourage and strengthen collaboration and political power. The perfect library is the library that is constantly changing.

- I. Board Members Present: Jane Smith; Ann Ingles; Harold Evans, Mathilde Slider, Catherine Alberts; Alma Staton.

Board Members Absent: Stuart Bush (excused); Jack Phipps (excused); Amy Schweitzer (excused); Tracy Collier-Nix (excused); Denise Hooks (excused).

Advisory Council Members Present: Mike Ugorowski; LaRene Klink; Louise Goward; Betsy Hull; Julie Chrisinske; Desta Ureel; Bryan Cloutier; Karen Lambert; JoAnne Mondowney; Kate Pohjola; Melissa Barnard; Ken Uptigrove; Carolyn Nash.

Advisory Council Members Absent: Trish Burns (excused); Kay Hurd (excused); Sandra Chavez (excused); Kevin Ayala (excused); Shirley Roos (excused); Sue Hill.

Guests: Patti Evans; Don Davenport; Pam Orr; Carol Chrisinske; Carol Warren; Diane Willick; Gail Kelso; June Mendel; Sandy Hinds; Virginia McKane; Lucille Couzynse.

Co-op Staff: Roger Mendel; Irene Bancroft.

- II. **Review of the Advisory Council Minutes dated April 3, 2007.** Approved as presented.
- III. **Director's Report:** Roger unveiled the newly revised MMLC website demonstrating some of the new components that have been included. Roger briefly reported on the current state of the financial situation for MMLC libraries and the Cooperatives in the State. Currently, state funds have been frozen which translates into the fact that two of our members have not received any state aid, the others have received half of their state aid. The cooperative has received the first half of direct state aid and the first half of LBPH state aid. Presently, MMLC is paying the bills as outlined in the budget by utilizing fund balance monies. Roger mentioned that MidMichigan Library League in Cadillac has laid off 5 of 7 employees; Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative, in Paw Paw, has laid off all staff and are going

into hibernation. The Capital Cooperative director announced her pending retirement in the early spring, with that Cooperative choosing to disband. The Library Network is continuing to discuss their pending future and is currently seeking an interim director to serve for 18-months. They are currently using two in-house staff members as co-interim directors. Suburban Library Cooperative director has tendered her resignation to accept a director position in a local library. That Cooperative is planning to use in-house staff to temporarily act as interim director. Northland Library Cooperative director has accepted a position in another area. MMLC has been approached to have MMLC director Roger Mendel act as their interim director. **Motion by LaRene Klink, seconded by Kate Pohjola to forward the recommendation to the MMLC Board to accept the proposed contract with Northland Cooperative to allow MMLC Director Roger Mendel to serve as Northland's interim director. All yeas (13-0). Motion carried.**

IV. **MMLC Board Chair, Jane Smith, called the May Board meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.**

V. **Review of the Board Minutes date March 8, 2007, 2007.** Approved as presented.

VI. **Review of the Financial Reports dated April 30, 2007.** Approved as presented.

VII. **Board Committee Reports**

- a. **Personnel Committee:** Ann mentioned that the Personnel Committee has reviewed the proposed contract with Northland Library Cooperative, recommending acceptance of the contract.
- b. **Budget and Finance Committee:** Harold reported the committee will be meeting in June to review the current fiscal year budget and to begin discussions for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year budget. Harold reported the committee had met virtually and recommends approval of entering into the contract with Northland Library Cooperative. **Motion by Budget and Finance Committee to enter into a contract with Northland Library Cooperative to provide for MMLC Director Roger Mendel to serve as interim director with Northland Library Cooperative. All yeas (6-0). Motion carried.**

VIII. **Director's Report:** Roger directed members to the written report. Jane announced that Dryden Township Library representative to the MMLC Board, Jack Phipps has tendered his resignation. **Motion by Ann Ingles, seconded by Mathilde Slider to accept with regrets the resignation of Jack Phipps. All yeas (6-0). Motion carried.**

IX. **Comments:** none

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Irene Bancroft
Administrative Assistant

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, June 14, 2007
MMLC Office – 5th Floor
4:30 p.m.

Next Advisory Council Meeting:

Tuesday, August 7, 2007
Bay County Library – Wirt Branch
9:30 a.m.