

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative
Director's Report
January – February 2017

State Budget/State Aid:

State Aid Annual Report, FY2015-16: All member libraries completed State Aid reports by February 1, 2017.

State Aid, FY2016-17: Additional libraries have received first half checks.

Cooperative Services:

Programming: Irene has booked over 560 programs so far for 70 MMLC member library locations and for 20 libraries from MidMichigan, Northland, White Pine, and Woodlands Cooperatives.

MCLS Focus Group: Debbi Schaubman conducted an excellent meeting to discuss MeLCat and RIDES with MMLC members on January 11, 2017 at the Flint Public Library.

Overdrive: I assisted some of the MMLC OverDrive consortium libraries with compiling statistics for State Aid due to a change in the statistical reporting system at OverDrive.

Advisory Council: The Advisory Council meeting included a morning session to review the 3D Printing Project Pilot. A summary of the evaluation survey was discussed. The afternoon featured presentations by the two newest Library of Michigan staff members: Cathy Lancaster, Youth Services Coordinator, and Clare Membiela, Library Law Consultant. Cathy and Clare provided excellent information on what they are working currently at LM and also links to valuable resources for library use.

QuickBooks: MMLC has agreed to provide QB services to the Friends of Michigan Libraries/Trustee Alliance beginning July 2017.

MMLC Advocacy:

NLLD Grant: MMLC representatives were chosen to attend the ALA National Library Legislative Day Washington D.C. event from April 30 – May 2, 2017. Participating are: Deb Bloomquist, Cheryl Cole, Dave Conklin, Charles Hanson, Karen Hornus, Melissa Malcolm, Jill Sodt, and Denise Hooks.

Collaborating Organizations:

Cooperative Director's Association (CDA):

- The CDA sent a letter/statement to Superintendent Brian Whiston and the Michigan Department of Education in support of school libraries and school librarians.
- The CDA offered two free webinars during February. The first speaker was Caryn Wojcik, CA, MILS, Government Records Archivist, Michigan Records Management Services, who covered Records Retention for libraries. Anne Seurnyck, Foster Swift Collins & Smith attorney, was the presenter the second webinar on the District Library Establishment law.

Friends of Michigan Libraries/Trustee Alliance: Registration for the March workshops ends on March 10, 2017. The FOML workshop “Good to Great: Becoming High-Achieving Friends” is Thursday, March 23, 2017 and features Randy Riley, State Librarian, as the keynote speaker; information/agenda is available at: <http://foml.org/eventsconferences/2017-spring-workshop/>. The Trustee Alliance workshop “Good To Great: Becoming High-Achieving Trustees” is March 24, 2017 and features Larry Neal, Director of the Clinton-Macomb District Library; information/agenda is available at: <http://fomltrusteealliance.org/2017-spring-workshop/>. Both workshops will be held at the Bloomfield Township Library, 1099 Lone Pine Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. A list of hotels is available on the registration site.

Michigan Library Association (MLA): Gail Madziar made the following report to the CDA:

- The Governor's 2018 budget was presented without changes from the 2017 budget except for a \$2 million reduction in Renaissance Zone reimbursements. The House and Senate will introduce their own versions of the budget. MLA's position is to lobby for an increase. Libraries are encouraged to get to know any new legislators in their area to educate on the value of their library in the community.
- The Legislative Service Bureau is in the process of creating 'trailer/clean-up' bills for recently passed tax capture bills that should be completed next summer in advance of summer tax collection. Libraries should continue to monitor their DDA's activities and contact the DDA to opt out when appropriate. Libraries should consult their local DDA about current debt obligations and their attorney when necessary.
- National Insurance Service has entered into a contract with MLA to provide health care benefits for library employees regardless of the size of the library staff. Library Directors should have received a letter of introduction and contact information from MLA President Kathleen Zaenger. NIS representative Brian Mitchell may be reached at: bmitchell@nisbenefits.com or (269) 569-4033.
- Dark Store bills expired at the end of the last legislative year end session. Senator Brandenburg is expected to introduce them again this year.
- Libraries have started to receive Personal Property tax reimbursements. District Library checks come directly from Michigan Treasury. Other types of libraries receive their checks through their local municipalities; if the municipality does not give the money to the library in a timely way, libraries are encouraged to contact Michigan Treasury for assistance.

Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS): Randy Dykhuis made the following report:

- It is not too late to register for the linked data workshop offered on March 16, 2017. It features information on the new cataloging standard BibFrame. It will also discuss the use of Zepheira to enhance library's access on Google.
- An extensive discussion about RIDES and services to the Upper Peninsula will be continued at the April meeting.

Library of Michigan (LM): Randy Riley made the following report:

- The Notable Books season has begun with 19 authors/books chosen and 17 authors participating. Libraries are encouraged to request an author visit at their library. The Night of Notables is April 1.
- The future of Institute for Museum and Library Services was the topic of the Council of State Library Agencies. There is some concern about who would distribute LSTA funding to libraries in its place should IMLS be disbanded. It is important to respond to a Call to Action should one be required to continue IMLS.
- LM will no longer issue C.E.U.'s for workshop attendance.

Collaborating Partners – CDA, LM, MiALA, MLA, and MCLS:

- A workshop is in the planning stages with the other Collaborating Partners for September 6 (Gaylord) and September 7 (Dearborn) on the topic of library safety. More information will be shared in the next report.

MMLC Administration:

- The January meeting of the Board was conducted virtually due to inclement weather; Kim Lindsay, Lewis and Knopf auditor, presented the audit which was rendered without exceptions.

- We met with Janet Newall of Island River Digital to discuss the website and make initial design choices.
- I attended the CALL meeting of Lapeer Libraries at the Lapeer District Library Metamora Branch.
- I filed E-rate 471 forms for cell service, telephone service, and Internet service. For the voice services, the cooperative discount has dropped over the past three years from 90% to 30% reimbursement. The Board has agreed to discontinue filing when the total amount received does not compensate the time required for the filing process.
- Lynn Stacey, Baker College librarian representative on the Advisory Council, retired in January.
- Northwood University became a multi-type member of MMLC with Eric Palmer as their representation to the Advisory Council.

Denise Hooks
MMLC Director