

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative
Director's Report
January – February 2018

State Budget/State Aid:

State Aid, FY2017-18: MMLC has not received the February State Aid report for members.

State Aid Budget, FY2018-19: The budget is expected to be at the same level next year. That is good news since previous reports indicated that a budget reduction was expected.

Cooperative Services:

Programming: We currently have booked 605 programs for this fiscal year and anticipate adding a few more fall events. Confirmation sheets will be sent to members and performers in early March. We are looking forward to a highly successful year of summer programs.

Millage: Nuts & Bolts: The workshop was attended by over 80 individuals from around the state. Speakers were: Lance Werner, Shirley Bruursema, Tracy Aldrich, Sheila Bissonnette, Scott Duimstra, and Trenton Smiley. Evaluations were excellent.

MMLC Advocacy:

National Legislative Library Day (NLLD): Six individuals applied for NLLD grants for this year. The attendees are: Debora Bloomquist; David Conklin; Robert Crites; Scott Duimstra; Charles Hanson; Melissa Malcolm; and Denise Hooks. Two conference calls will be held before the event.

ALA Action Center: The easy to use link below includes the latest in advocacy action items including:

- Museum and Library Service Act Reauthorization
- FY2018 LSTA Funding
- FY2019 Budget Support for Libraries
- Restore Net Neutrality

<http://cqrcengage.com/ala/app/write-a-letter?1&engagementId=424273>

Collaborating Organizations:

Cooperative Director's Association (CDA): The CDA met in mid-February and heard reports from our Collaborating Partners. We received a report from Kate Pohjola Andrade and Gail Madziar on the penal fines task force. Gail brought a Pp presentation draft that is intended to help library directors understand the how/why of penal fine legislation and to be able to explain the importance of that funding for libraries. The Pp will be shared with all libraries when it is completed.

ALA Boot Camp: MLA and the CDA are co-sponsoring the ALA Boot Camp on Friday, April 20, 2018. Information about the workshop and a link to register is at: <http://www.mibraries.org/events/ala-advocacy-bootcamp/>

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

- MLA is planning to ask for an increase in State Aid for next year.
- MLA will prepare and distribute questionnaires for legislators to be used at Meet the Candidate forums and meetings.
- MLA is working with LM/MDE to make it safer for libraries who choose to administer Narcan to do so without repercussion. SB828 and SB829 have been introduced in the Senate to allow libraries to provide and administer Narcan without civil or criminal liability for the library or employees.

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

- The RIDES Study draft report was presented in mid-February.

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

- Joe Polasek was introduced as the new E-rate Specialist at MDE. His contact email is: erate@michigan.gov and his phone number is: (517) 373-1291. He is looking forward to working with libraries on e-rate services.
- IMLS funding is at risk. ALA is coordinating efforts to let Congress know how important federal funding is to our constituents.
- Randy Riley was elected to the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies Board of Directors. Meeting information is at: <http://measurethatmatter.net/>
- LSTA Quick Grant applications are due Monday, March 26, 2018. The grant provides funding for public libraries to develop summer programs and purchase materials/supplies for the program. Topics include technology, children and teens. Additional information is available from Karren Reish and at: <http://www.michigan.gov/lsta>
- Michigan Notable Books author tour stops are in the final scheduling process. Night for Notables is April 7, 2018 at LM. The keynote speaker is author Richard Ford.
- MeL RFP process ended February 19, 2018 and the next phase will involve libraries in reviewing and testing databases.
- Ready to Read Michigan (formerly Michigan Reads) packets were mailed to public libraries with the tour kicking off in East Lansing on March 18, 2018.
- The Loleta Fyan 2018 Small and Rural Libraries Conference is April 30 – May 2, 2018; registration is now open: <http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,2351,7-160-18668-142226--,00.html>

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

The workshop is focused on Library Accessibility and has been scheduled for Friday, November 9, 2018 at the Grand Valley State University Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids. The CDA members are taking the lead this year and will be sharing responsibilities. I have assumed the administrative coordinator role for the CDA.

MMLC Administration:

- The MMLC Board met on January 11, 2018 and heard an audit presentation from Lewis & Knopf auditing firm. The cooperative received an unqualified, no exceptions report.
- The MMLC Advisory Council met on February 20, 2018 in the Mott Foundation Board Room. In addition to a report on cooperative activities and programming of importance to members, Michelle Boisvenue-Fox, Kent District Library Director of Innovation and User Experience was the featured speaker. Michelle's presentation on Design Thinking led members through a description of how design thinking works at KDL and several exercises to use with staff during planning and exploration.
- I attended ALA Midwinter's Symposium on the Future of Libraries in February.
- I attended a Michigan School Libraries Advocacy meeting hosted by MAME at the Brighton Public Library in early February; presentation slides are at: <http://bit.ly/MIslmtg>

Denise Hooks
MMLC Director