

**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
BOARD MINUTES – Official
Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.
Kent District Library Service Center & Zoom**

Present: Dale Parus, Peggy Hemerling, Karen McKinnon, Diane Kooiker, Maggie McKeithan, Lance Werner, Shirley Bruursema, John McNaughton (on ZOOM), Kelly Richards (on ZOOM)

Staff Present: Carol Dawe and Sheryl VanderWagen

Absent:None

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Dale Parus. There were 23 additional participants.
 - a) Introduction of New Members: Carol introduced Stefanie Reed, the new director of the Flat River Community Library.
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Lance Werner moved, supported by Karen McKinnon, to approve the agenda as presented - *motion carried*.
- 3) **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS:** Lance Werner asked if other libraries were experiencing an uptick in the number of confrontations with patrons with mental health issues. The consensus from the group was that many libraries are experiencing an increase in these situations. He asked if the Cooperative could consider training on dealing with difficult patrons, de-escalation techniques, and patron and staff safety during situations. Maggie McKeithan mentioned that they had a training on this with their staff, she will send Carol the information from their staff session.
- 4) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comment
- 5) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Peggy Hemerling moved, supported by Lance Werner, to approve the board minutes from May 13, 2021, as presented – *motion carried*.
- 6) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**
 - a) May Financials: There were no questions.
 - b) Monthly Check Register: There were no questions. Shirley Bruursema moved, supported by Lance Werner, to approve the May Financials and Monthly Check Register as presented - *motion carried*.
- 7) **PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** There was nothing to report from the Board President.
- 8) **COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Carol Dawe did a follow-up on the ARPA grant information from her report. She will meet with the Cooperative Directors this afternoon and will have more information following that meeting. She noted that the equipment grants require purchased equipment to be in hand by September 1, 2022, and the grants do not cover any type of installation fees. The content grants will not cover any type of subscription-based pricing. Grant proposals will be due by July 15, 2021.
- 9) **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
 - a) Bibliocore update and next steps: Carol Dawe asked libraries to continue sending questions to tech-help@lcoop.org. Sheryl VanderWagen is the lead team member on fielding those questions. An updated Known Issues/FAQ document was posted to the Lakeland website this morning. The next step in the project will be the linking between the KDL, LLC and GRPL Bibliocore catalogs. This exploration will begin next month, and more information will be provided as staff learns exactly how the linking works.
- 10) **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a) Open Meetings Act: Carol Dawe reported that both the Board and the Advisory Council continue to be required to meet in person as in the past-PreCovid. There are strict limitations on who can participate remotely related to ADA requirements. The effective dates may vary in some counties due to county level emergency orders and library boards will have to comply based on the dates

issued by their counties. Carol also noted that committees may continue to meet remotely as per the OMA.

b) ARPA Grants: No further discussion.

11) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Reilly Brouwer, Interim Director at Dorr Township Library reported that Dorr received an LSTA grant to purchase 10 graphing calculators for circulation. They will be used by individuals who may need them for testing and other situations. Dorr is also planning to be fines free.

12) **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

a) **Kelly Richards** reported that MADL branch renovations continue, and the new Bookmobile delivery has been delayed.

Shirley Bruursema spoke about the Trustee Workshops that will be held in July. The workshops are duplicates of the earlier workshops. She also spoke about the possibility of an increase in State Aid for the coming year. This is part of a Senate budget proposal.

Karen McKinnon reported that her library has experienced an increase in in-person traffic. Bids for an addition to the Leighton Township Library are due on June 23. She reported that staff and public reaction to Bibliocore has been positive.

Maggie McKeithan also reported that Spring Lake has also experienced an increase in in-person traffic.

Diane Kooiker reported that Herrick District Library has hired Natalie Williams to serve as Assistant Director. Herrick will go live with Biblioweb in early fall. Herrick has also contracted with a local non-profit agency for a 20 hour a week social worker to be in the library to assist with patrons who are having mental health issues and to assist staff when working with those individuals. This is in lieu of hiring a security guard.

John McNaughton reported the GRPL branches increased their hours beginning this week. GRPL also has an opening for a Librarian IV position for Public Services.

Dale Parus noted that the additional State Aid funding in the Senate budget would put libraries at the \$.50 per capita funding level legislated in 1977.

13) **NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. at Kent District Library Service Center.

14) **ADJOURNMENT:** Lance Werner moved, supported by Maggie McKeithan, to adjourn at 10:10 a.m. - *motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by,
Sheryl VanderWagen