

Director's Report May 26, 2020

WEEKLY UPDATES: I hope the weekly updates shared with members each Friday has been helpful. I also hope the Tuesday zoom meetings provided some guidance to members, as well. My goal was/is to try to attend as many zoom meetings as possible that would be of interest to members so if they were not able to attend, they could have a summary and links to presentations or slides.

MCDA MEETINGS: Each week Coop Directors met for an hour to share any updates they have. We have been able to purchase some ppe supplies for our members at discounted rates. We have also been in regular contact with MLA and LOM so when new EOs were/are announced we can share that with our members.

VOX BOOKS: Twenty-two libraries ordered through White Pine for the discount for VOX Books. Members have been billed. I believe there are two libraries that the books went in delivery on March 12 and they will not receive until delivery starts again. All the rest were either picked up or I delivered them.

RBDIGITAL: Four libraries signed up for digital magazines that did not have the service before bringing the total of WP members to 36 with eMagazines. The eAudio service has 19 members signed up, 11 for eComics, 2 video, and 1 utilizing eNewspapers. White Pine pays \$200.00 towards RBDigital services per library.

SWANK MOVIE LICENSING: Three libraries decided not to renew with Swank for their movie licensing so there are 23 who have renewed. White Pine pays \$100.00 towards this service per library.

OVERDRIVE: One new library is in the process of signing up for OverDrive. There are 44 members using this service. Our contract is up for renewal in August.

Reciprocal lending: I have talked to our representative about this numerous times, and I believe now we are on the list as a Coop that would like to participate, even though I talked to her at MLA about being considered back in October.

MICHIGAN HUMANITIES H.O.P.E. GRANT: Submitted application for the H.O.P.E. Grant for \$7, 263.64 which includes salaries, rent, utilities. Were awarded \$5,000.00. I have signed the award letter and am waiting for the check.

CD STATUS: Interest tanked after we secured the CD. Currently it matures June 27. It is earning .15%. Earnings to date are \$130.67. Shall I continue to keep it there? Our sweep account is earning .10%.

PPE: Nothing new to update. I have sanitizer, waiting for thermometers, masks, and gloves. Once I have items I will be delivering.

OLD BUSINESS

FACILITY UPDATE: I have tried to get with the realtor of the building in Saginaw as I am trying to find out if the new owner will let us out of our lease. There was one inspection done and my understanding was they were waiting on another one. Then the flood happened, and portions of Saginaw County were impacted. Although the building was not affected, it may have an impact as the second inspection is with the health department, I believe.

For about 3 weeks the phones were out at the Saginaw building. VLC changed their plan and ClearRate shut off our service as well. I am working with ClearRate to get a credit for those three weeks.

Sheila and I have worked extremely hard at clearing out files and organizing for the move. It has been an awful lot of work, and with no trash pick up at the building we have had to bring many boxes home to get rid of or shred.

Sheila has posted many items for sale on the website and has sold several. She will coordinate pick up in early June. She and I went through everything that White Pine owns and marked them as keep or trash. Per Lee Martin, VLC, the buyer was going to get rid of anything we did not want. Again, I have nothing in writing, just Lee stating this.

I am planning on using 2 Men and a Truck to move our items to the new office space. Date TBD.

I have the keys for our mailbox located at our new office. The new address is 429 State Street, Suite #207, Caro, MI 48723.

BY-LAWS:

Have not had a chance to work on. They were approved with the changes at the February meeting, but It was then discussed how to implement with 3 members going off every three years so members would now be serving 3 years, not two.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reopening Plan: sent to members

OverDrive:

In the past our platform fee has been \$12,000/yr. This cost was spread across the libraries who have this service. An additional \$2,000/yr for tech support was paid for by White Pine. Each library was billed \$.10/capita to purchase content for the year. Within the last two years we have lost DeWitt and Harrison. Which has impacted how much content we can purchase.

2018: \$14,000 platform + \$54,000 content = \$68,000 spent

2019: \$14,000 platform + \$46,000 content = \$60,000 spent

2020: \$14,000 platform + \$44,000 content = \$58,000 spent

OD is proposing a \$6,000 platform with no tech support cost, it would be included, but \$70,000 content. I shared with our rep that in the past two years we have lost two libraries and although we are bringing one new one on, it is a smaller library and would not make up that difference. I told our rep I would consult with members and the board and present a counter proposal.

Members would be saving \$6,000 in platform and tech, but how shall we make up the additional content? Would members want to shift the \$6,000 they were paying for platform, and move to content? This would then be adding \$6,000 to \$44,000 (using 2020 figures) and providing \$50,000 content. It would be \$56,000 spent, yet OD is looking for \$76,000 (\$6,000 platform and \$70,000 content)