

WHITE PINE LIBRARY COOPERATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Zoom Session Notes, February 23, 2022

In-person meetings were scheduled to be held at Fleschner Memorial Library but were canceled due to winter weather conditions. Twenty-five members joined via Zoom for an informational session with the knowledge that no votes could be held.

Kate shared some current topics including state aid and ARPA funds; Rides Delivery pricing changes; Michigan Cooperative Directors Association (MCDA) forming DEI and Continuing Ed committees; MLA Board DEI efforts; ThinkSpace 2022 meetings on DEI; Swank Movie Licensing, interest in Amazon Prime for Business; WPLC services for MARC Bibs & OCLC requesting/lending. See the Director's Report for more details and further explanation. https://wplc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/director_reports/director-report-feb2022.pdf

Some other topics discussed included:

MLA Advocacy Day

MLA Advocacy Day will be held on March 1st starting at noon on Zoom. Participants do not need to be an MLA member but must register on the website. Topics to be covered include how to advocate for public libraries and the need for library trustees to be involved in the process. For more information and to sign up, visit the MLA website at <https://www.milibraries.org/advocacy-day>

DEI Program

Kate also mentioned that White Pine will be co-hosting a DEI program with TLN on March 3rd from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm on Equity vs. Equality. Kate will send an email with information and the link to the webinar on or before February 25th.

TechSparks 2022

A subscription to the TechSparks 2022 series was purchased for White Pine members. Six programs will be held, and the first is scheduled for March 18th at 2 pm on Zoom. The first topic will cover cybercrime and be available for viewing up to two months after the event. A flier and sign-up link will be emailed by Alison on or before February 25th.

Public Comments/Membership News:

BillieJo, Rauchholz Memorial Library, shared that a 1st Amendment Audit occurred at their location on February 22nd, and the group seems to be visiting multiple locations in the area. She reported that those conducting the event arrived at the library with '1st Amendment Audit' branded hats, put cameras in the faces of those they filmed, and filmed the inside and outside of the building. A patron refused to be filmed while working at a computer, and the group said that they 'could film her but wouldn't.' The group was also reported as displaying intimidating and pushy behavior. Katie Barnum, Taymouth Township, questioned whether the group was regular citizens. BillieJo clarified that the group identified themselves as well-known individuals; Kate confirmed that they are an organized group and post these audits frequently to their YouTube channel. Nannette Pretzer, St. Charles, questioned what information the group wants to see available in libraries; BillieJo stated they wanted to see "The Constitution for Dummies" available. Kate confirmed that other



materials are not usually requested. Lorrie Taylor, Alma, shared that a similar group had visited their location the past several years and attempted to enter staff only areas.

A webinar recording from Claire at LOM was suggested by Kate for an overview of the situation. The recording can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVjKMtoMdp8>

Nicole Markel, Sandusky, questioned how to handle such an event should an individual come in and want to film a children's program while not attending with a child of their own. Kate advised that libraries should look at their policies for guidance. BillieJo reported that the group visiting Rauchholz had stated they did not care about library policy.

Nicole also asked if anyone know about the Amazon Prime for Business credit being discontinued. Kate advised to contact Jim Flury at TLN for more information.

Charlie Mitchell, Brown City, announced that their library is seeking a new director as Shirley Wood will be retiring after 38 years of service. The Board is seeking an individual who is well-versed with modern library technology. Their ideal candidate is described as someone who wants to grow with the library as Brown City is on the cusp of becoming a district library. They have also been seeking job descriptions used for similar positions to ensure they have a proper segregation of duties between the Board and their new director. Kate advised she would be attending the Board meeting on March 7th to help advise on the situation.

Jeanette Morrish, Fleschner Memorial Library, reported that she had started receiving some of the resources obtained with TI-83 grants. The computer obtained for in-library use by patrons has already allowed a patron to attend a virtual job interview thanks to the item's audio/visual capabilities. Amy Beckman, Millington Arbela, questioned who to contact if resources have not been received. Kate advised to contact TLN but to be aware that resources are still in the process of being delivered at this time.

Lynne Clark (River Rapids), Katie Barnum (Taymouth), and Jessica Rivett & Nicole Markel (Sandusky) reported that they have been receiving Rides deliveries that are extremely dirty. Kate advised to submit ticket online about the issue.

Next Meeting: Next meeting is set for April 27, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at Fleschner Memorial Library.

