

Director's Report April 27, 2022

Welcome! Thank you for joining us at Thomas Fleschner Memorial Library in Birch Run and for Jeanette's hosting!

Census 2020*

The census 2020 numbers for White Pine member libraries shows we lost 12,679 in population. We also had six libraries go down a Class size and one library go up in Class size. You should have received a letter from the LOM if your Class status changed with the new numbers.

These changes will need to be reflected in our 2022-2023 Plan of Service and Board of Trustee rotation. White Pine's members include:

Class I – 13 members

Class II – 17 members

Class III – 12 members

Class IV – 5 members

Class V – 1 member

Class VI – None

Although our numbers went down, with State Aid at \$.4879, we look to gain about \$36,000 in revenue. Also, just an FYI that Kathy Webb will be retiring. (Library State Aid and Penal Fines Coordinator)

OVERDRIVE

ARPA Digital Content Grant

At the end of March, Sara Morrison, Director at Briggs District Library, and I finished the selection of over \$92,000.00 in digital materials to be added to the Fuel Your Mind Collection with ARPA Funds allocated to our group! The breakdown looks like this:

- Our goal was to purchase like we normally do for OverDrive content where half the funds go to ebooks and the other half to audiobooks. Within each group, 75% is used to purchase adult

materials and 25% for children's materials. There were not as many audiobooks available for us to purchase, but we did our best!

- All items are one copy/one user, so they won't expire which was a requirement of the grant.
- Purchased 1,746 ebooks with an average cost of \$26.34.
- Purchased 898 audiobooks with an average cost of \$51.24.
- Total items purchased were 2,644 at a final cost of \$92,000.83.
- Items purchased were from 2015 to current pub dates.
- Hoping to curate the ARPA collection and have it at the top of the selection area so when patrons log in they see the new content and that it was purchased with ARPA funds.

eMagazines

In other OverDrive news, I purchased the simultaneous use eMagazines for another year for \$17,500.00 and was able to do it when they had their special Friday Frenzy sale where our group earned 5% content credit for every Marketplace order placed that day. I placed our regular monthly order at that time as well so we should have a content credit of \$1,055.83 to spend on future orders.

State Aid

I have completed the State Aid Stats for the members and emailed them to each library. If you haven't received the email with the compiled stats that I configure, you may have not sent me your State Aid Report. Feel free to do so and I will send you your stats. I encourage you to do this because I was able to find two issues with reports and the members were able to get their information corrected by Joe Hamlin and then the state aid check was sent out.

Rides Delivery*

If you recall, MCLS has been working on a new pricing structure for Rides Delivery. As you may or may not know, the UP is charged about

35% more for delivery than the LP. There is a new pricing structure on MCLS's website, and based on my calculations, it appears delivery will cost us about \$8,000.00 less next year!

MLA

ThinkSpace

Our next meeting is in person on May 18-19 in Boyne City. On May 20 is our MCDA Partner's meeting in Lansing. So, I will be out of the office from Wednesday, May 18-Friday, May 20.

Michigan Cooperative Directors Association (MCDA)

I hope you have signed up for Zingerman's Customer Service program sponsored in part by the MCDA. It is scheduled for May 11 from 10-1 and seating is limited.

TechSparks 2022

Fourteen members attended the Cybercrime TechSparks program presented on March 18. Our next TechSparks will be on May 27 at 2 pm. The topic is How to Take Care of Yourself (and others) with Technology. More information will follow.

VOX Books Purchase

Please let me know by Thursday at 4 pm if you will be ordering VOX Books for their current promotion. It is a 15% discount on each book and free shipping if we had 20 or more books to order, which we do. Ruth Steele at Rawson Memorial Library graciously offered to be the ship to contact and will send out the books to those who ordered. White Pine will take care of paying the invoice and then billing the libraries.

Equity v Equality

The Equity v Equality webinar held on March 3 and was presented by TLN provided an overview presentation of structural racism in libraries

and we then broke out into group discussions around how the concepts of equity and equality differ from each other. Twenty-three member libraries attended.

Member Visits

- Alison and I attended the Brown City Public Library Board meeting earlier this month. Alison worked on a tech problem they were having, and I did a Board training and am helping them with the hiring of a new Director.
- Visited and met with Tammy Fath, Ashley District Library's new Director, last week. Was hoping to meet up with Connie Thornton, Ovid Public Library's new Director, but our schedules didn't mesh this time.
- Stopped in to see Nannette Pretzer at St. Charles and had a great visit plus there was Books and Bits sales so I grabbed some wonderful treats!

Director Review

The Board will be reviewing my performance and along with that, all the members of White Pine can share their thoughts about my performance as well. Jeanette Morrish, White Pine Board President, will be emailing an Evaluation Input Form allowing you to comment on the job I am doing for White Pine.