

Director's Report August 2023

Welcome! Thank you for joining us here at Howe Memorial Library in Breckenridge and to Sunday and her staff for hosting!

MDHHS Division of Environmental Health

As part of their Care for MI Drinking Water Program, MDHHS recently launched a statewide pilot program encouraging private well maintenance. The "Well Assessed Project" invites well owners, living in the rural areas of our state, to complete a step-by-step inspection of their home's private well, to assess its condition and learn more about the quality of their drinking water. Participation takes about 10 minutes, and participants receive a \$20 Visa gift card as a thank-you for participating. The grant period for the project is ending and MDHHS is hoping you would be willing to promote the project among our state's well owners by posting the Well Assessed Project flier. I will send it out with the Weekly Update on Friday.

House Bill 4817-Open Meetings Act

There has been no movement since the end of June. It has been referred to the Committee on Local Government and Municipal Finance. I will keep watching for movement.

OverDrive

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative will be joining OverDrive's RLA program in September.

<https://link.overdrive.com/getting-started-reciprocal-lending>. Visit the [Resource Center](#) page for additional information about deep search and Notify Me, including FAQs, promotional materials, and training resources.

Board Training

Three new White Pine Board members will be serving on our Board from 2023-2026 and I will have an orientation for them in September. Rotating off are Jeanette-Birch Run, Barb-Ubly, and TJ-Sherman Twp. Rotating on are Marcy-Fairgrove, Lisa-Pigeon, and Lynne-Chesaning. At the October Annual Meeting, the Board-outgoing and incoming members- will meet at 9:30 rather than at the end of the day.

White Pine Policies

I am working with Anne Seuryneck from Foster Swift on our Administrative and Financial policies. One, in particular, is our FOIA policy. If you recall back in 2015 it was mandated you had to have your FOIA policy on your website along with contact information. In light of everything that has been going on in the library world, Foster Swift has created a much more detailed FOIA policy, and it might be worth your while to contact your attorney if you haven't updated yours recently.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will take place on October 4, 2023, beginning at 10 am at Trillium Banquet Center in Saginaw and ending at about 4 pm. The Board will meet at 9:30 before the beginning of the Meeting. Registration will open on September 5 and will close on the 26. The cost is \$25/per person. There **won't** be a remote option. There will be a segment on Accessibility in Library collections by Jenn Taggart, Department Head of Youth Services at Bloomfield Township Public Library, Matt Pacer from the LOM will share information about the preservation of collections and unique artifacts at the LOM, and visits by two MI authors, Mickey Carolan, and Tobin Buhk.

New Directors

We would also like to welcome Mikayla Dore, the new Director of the Deckerville Public Library. Jen Kisbany recently resigned to head up the FOL group at Deckerville!

We also welcome Kari Besancon, the new Director of the Iosco-Arenac District Library, who officially starts on Friday but maybe on this call? Of course, that means we say goodbye to Jenn Donner who will be the new Director at the Lydia M. Olson Library at Northern Michigan University.

\$300 Grant

Forty-three libraries took advantage of the \$300 grant where members can use the funds for books, CE, SRP, Tech, or another cool idea they may have. Nearly 60% used it for Summer Reading. (\$12,900)

Library Association Membership Reimbursement

Twenty-four members have turned in the reimbursement for and receipts for library association membership. (\$12,955)

Programming Google Doc

[Google Doc Programming Listing](#)

Please add performers and contact information. There are about 15 performers listed in the doc so far.

Library Policies

I recently have had a few members contact me about **library policies**. Creating, reviewing, and updating policies are important, especially in this book-challenging climate. This is by no means a complete listing.

WPLC: [Resources tab](#)

LOM: [Niche Academy Library Policies](#) If this link does not work, go to the [Continuing Ed](#) page, click on Niche Staff Skills, and then search library policies.
[Administrative Resources](#)

MLA: [Policies Webinar](#) This webinar is wonky at the beginning. It appears to start about the 1-minute mark.

ALA: [Library Policies Guidelines](#)

Kent District Library: [KDL Policies](#)

MI Right to Read: [MLA's Intellectual Freedom Tool Kit](#)

Housekeeping Reminders...

Member Directory Just a quick reminder that if your information has changed-email, hours, etc., please let Alison know. [Member Directory](#)