

WHITE PINE LIBRARY COOPERATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes, February 28, 2024

Draft

Welcome

The meeting was held at Alma Public Library in Alma, MI. Ruth Steele called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. There were 23 attendees at the meeting, and 12 attending via Zoom.

Introductions

Ruth Steele asked attendees to introduce themselves by sharing their names, their library, and something exciting happening at their library.

Approval of Agenda

Amber Hughey moved, and Jeanette Morrish seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was carried.

Approval of Minutes

Jeanette Morrish moved, and Sara Morrison seconded to approve the December 6, 2023, Advisory Council minutes. The motion was carried.

Director's report

Kate Van Auken presented her report. Topics included new WPLC directors; WPLC Traveling Librarians; Navigating Material Challenges for Library Trustees (MLA Connect); Seed Lending How-To webinar; SRP brainstorming; BookPage; WPLC policies; Advocacy Day promotional materials; UofM Post-Pandemic Public Library Program; Independent Bank's Positive Pay program; [ALA Banned Book Resumes](#); LOM new hire Michelle Bradley; library policies. See the Director's Report for more details and further explanation: https://wplc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/director_reports/director-report-feb2024.pdf

Office Manager's report

Alison Blattner presented her report. Some topics included Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and Peabody updates; copy cataloging requests; office technology updates; and original cataloging requests. See the Office Manager's Report for more details and further explanation: https://wplc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/office_report/office-report-dec2023.pdf

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

OverDrive increase discussion

Kate Van Auken gave an overview of WPLC's OverDrive collection, its history, and funding levels. WPLC has a large amount of holds on digital materials (60% are on audiobooks, 40% on eBooks), and Kate is seeking ways to combat this. One option is to increase the cost per capita for participating members to \$.15 (up from \$.14). Another option would be to encourage all



participating members to utilize their Advantage accounts for their patrons and share these materials with the cooperative after they've circulated at their home library. No decisions about how to proceed occurred as this discussion focused on starting the conversation about how best to decrease holds now that RLA is active.

Kate Van Auken noted that WPLC would revisit this topic at Advisory Council meetings in the coming months.

Patron Engagement- How do you do it?

This item was tabled for the next WPLC Administrative Council Meeting.

Public Comments/Membership News:

No public comments were made.

Debbie Mikula, Executive Director, Michigan Library Association

Debbie Mikula spoke to WPLC members about the Michigan Library Association (MLA), numerous services offered to its members, the upcoming Advocacy Day on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, and MLA's MI Right to Read campaign. She outlined the priorities for 2024's Advocacy Day: the soon-to-be-announced Michigan Freedom to Read Act, a \$2M increase to State Aid, capital improvements funds, and amendments to the Open Meetings Act. She explained how current law protects MI librarians from prosecution for distributing library materials and how the new law would complement existing legislation. She also detailed the public opinion poll conducted by MLA in March 2023 on Book Banning and Censorship. Additional details can be found in the slides for this presentation: <https://wplc.org/wp-content/uploads/event-documents/mla-feb28-presentation-2024.pdf>

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on April 24, 2024, at Charles A. Amble Library, Mid-Michigan College, 1375 South Clare Ave., Harrison, MI 48625.

