

Mid-Michigan Library League
Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes – March 24, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am with 14 in attendance.

There was no Public Participation or Communications. An addition was made to include BTOP Computer Grants to the Old Business.

The Council needed to elect a new Chair since Emily Clark has taken a new position and is no longer part of the Council. Chuck Haemker (Manistee County Library) was nominated and his nomination seconded. The group elected Chuck unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

State Aid (current year) Jim Lawrence stated that the first half of this fiscal year's State Aid has been received by the League. Public Libraries should start receiving their first payments soon in the order in which the Annual Reports to the State were submitted. There is no indication that the amount of State Aid issued this year will be reduced from what was previously decided. Jim provided the group with handouts that provide historical data for the financial support the State of Michigan has provided for libraries from 1972-present.

e-Rate - Jim reminded the group that today is the last day to file for USF e-Rate Funds.

Summer Reading Programs -The MMLL will once again be working with TV 9&10 to promote Summer Reading Programs. Please submit your program information to Jim for inclusion.

BTOP update - Some libraries have received computers. Most are still waiting and resubmitting bids for approval.

Workshops

May 28th - The Friends of Michigan Libraries have formed a Trustee Alliance to provide training for library Trustees. This session will be held in Grand Rapids and will cost \$20/member or \$35/non-member.

May 6th - A Summer Reading Craft Workshop is scheduled at the Cadillac Wexford County Library. The event will include adult summer reading program ideas.

May 18th – “Boot Camp” beginning certification workshop in Otsego.

August 4th – Plinkits Webpage design at the MMLL offices.

NEW BUSINESS

State Aid (2011-2012) - In budget proposals, Michigan Governor Snyder has included reduction in State Aid to Libraries of over 40%. The per capita rate will drop from \$0.189 per capita to \$0.115 per capita.

Library Cooperatives are looking for ways to cut costs. There is talk of consolidation, but legal issues make consolidations difficult. It is uncertain how much money can actually be saved through consolidations.

The MMLL is considering ways to address their \$123,443 revenue shortfall. Changes in staffing, services (such as OCLC & Mel Delivery services), and using monies from the Fund Balance are all on the table.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

The next meeting of the Advisory Council will be held on May 12, 2011