

TLN Outreach Services Committee Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2017
Orion Township Public Library
HOST: Gina Crowther

Meeting began at 10:00AM

In Attendance:

Anna Brougher, Allen Park Public Library
Brigette Felix, The Library Network
Diane Betcher, Oxford Public Library
Gina Crowther, Orion Township Public Library
Jane Haigh, Madison Heights Public Library
Joyce Simowski, Canton Public Library
Karen Wiedman, Rochester Hills Public Library
Kathy Rudes, Auburn Hills Public Library
Vanessa Verdun-Morris, Taylor Community Library

10:00-10:30AM Business Meeting

Approval of January 18, 2017 Minutes

First: Vanessa Verdun-Morris, Taylor Community Library

Second: Anna Brougher, Allen Park Public Library

Brigette Felix/The Library Network. The members discussed the meaning of Outreach Services, what it encompassed, and how the Outreach Services Committee would assist its' members. Brigette cited the American Library Association's definition posted on their website:

<http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/libcareers/jobs/outreach>

We agreed that Outreach is "the extending of services or assistance beyond current or usual limits," and can take different forms. Any program offered by a library can be considered Outreach but members felt the responsibility of Outreach Services was to reach residents beyond the library's walls. It includes delivering library materials to senior residences or designated off-sites, making the library accessible to all by meeting ADA standards, offering technology such as Optelec ClearView C Speech, low vision readers, etc. The Outreach Committee

will make a greater effort to bring in outside speakers about services/resources libraries could offer to meet community needs. Karen Weidman highly recommended the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services (<http://www.abos-outreach.com/>) as a resource.

Outreach Services Librarians Roundtable

Karen Weidman/Rochester Hills Public Library. RHPL recently held a Disabilities Awareness expo for over 600 Fifth Graders. The library has purchased an Optelec Reader, which can instantly convert printed text into speech. They have created MYLE (Make Your Life Easier) kits for adult patrons. They have a variety of themed kits containing special products to try before purchasing which can help make life easier for individuals suffering from Parkinson's Disease, Arthritis, etc. Karen reported their Book Peddler should be on the road as the weather warms. She mentioned the upcoming Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services conference will be held in Pittsburgh, PA on October 25-27 and ABOS is offering five (5) scholarships. Karen is hosting TLN Outreach Services Committee's meeting on October 18 and will arrange to have a speaker on Disabilities Awareness.

Kathy Rude/Auburn Hills Public Library. The library participated in Auburn Hills Annual Easter Egg hunt. AHPL hosts a weekly ESL Conversation Group and offers a book discussion group at a Senior Residence in Auburn Hills.

Jane Haigh/Madison Heights Public Library. Jane is working with the Madison Heights Senior Center transport services to make the Madison Heights Public Library a weekly stop.

Anna Brougher/Allen Park Public Library. A representative from Michigan State University's Co-Operative Extension Service demonstrated how to create indoor gardens and/or raised bed gardens for seniors and individuals with disabilities. A Careplanning workshop is upcoming and library staff will offer stories and a crafts at Allen Park's Marketplace.

Diane Betcher/ Oxford Public Library. Diane reported there Senior Book Group at Independent Living Village is going strong. She is interested in hosting a storytelling session for adults and welcomes recommendations.

Gina Crowther/Orion Township Public Library. The Orion Township Public Library now offers a Special Needs Storytelling. The Next Chapter Book Club continues to meet. They are awaiting the delivery of their book-cycle from Icicle Tricycles USA. It has booked for several community events. Since there is 'safety in numbers', she has recruited other cyclists to 'tag' along with library staff as they cycle to the appointed venue. They are looking into portable systems to allow library staff to issue library cards at community events. One of OTPL's library staff members leads Memory Lane programs at various senior sites/residences. A library sponsored multi-generational Trivia Pursuit game meets at Canterbury Village's C-Bar.

Joyce Simowski/Canton Public Library. Canton Public Library hosts a monthly Special Needs story-time at the library, a quarterly Book MeetUp (i.e. book talk) at Waltonwood @ Carriage Park, and the Books by Mail program continues. An Open House will be held in the new Teen Space on Sunday, April 30 from 12:00PM-2:00PM.

Vanessa Verdun-Morris/Taylor Community Library/Braille and Talking Books. Vanessa provided the group with the April/May calendar of programs for the visually impaired. In May they will begin a new program, Tech Talk which will focus on technology improving the lives of people with vision impairments.

Gina conducted a tour of Orion Township Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40AM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 19. 10:00AM-12:00PM

Canton Public Library

1200 S. Canton Center Road

Canton Township, MI 48188

PHONE: 734-397-0999

HOST: Joyce Simowski (ext. 1142)