



The Library Network

Libraries Working Together

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THE LIBRARY NETWORK BOARD PROCEEDINGS April 15, 2021 via Zoom

The regular meeting of The Library Network (TLN) Board was held on Thursday, April 15.

Board Members present: Mark Wollenweber, Burtchville Twp., MI, Chair; Lois VanStipdonk, Wayne, MI, Vice Chair; Rita VanBrandeghen, Berkley, MI, Secretary; Arthur M. Woodford, Harsens Island, MI; Joe Rozell, Huntington Woods, MI; Debra Green, Belleville, MI; and Charles Hanson, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. A quorum.

Board Members Absent & Excused: Victor Cardenas.

Additional attendees: Jenny Marr, MLA Advocacy and Legislative Committee Chair; Celia Morse, Executive Committee Representative; Holly Teasdale, Steering Committee Representative; Steven Bowers, TLN Executive Director; Rick Rosekrans, and Judith Kozakowski, TLN

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

1. **Call to audience**

Introduction of Guests – None

Public Comment – None

- The Agenda.** Motion by VanStipdonk, supported by Hanson, to approve the Agenda as presented. Wollenweber – Aye; VanStipdonk –aye; VanBrandeghen- aye; Woodford - aye; Rozell – aye; Green – aye; Hanson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of the Minutes.** Motion by VanBrandeghen, supported by Hanson, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2021 meeting of the Board, as presented. Wollenweber – Aye; VanStipdonk –aye; VanBrandeghen- aye; Woodford - aye; Rozell – aye; Green – aye; Hanson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Communications & Announcements**

Motion by VanStipdonk, supported by Hanson, to adopt the Stephen G. Harper resolution as presented. Wollenweber – Aye; VanStipdonk –aye; VanBrandeghen- aye; Woodford - aye; Rozell – aye; Green – aye; Hanson – aye. Motion carried unanimously

Jenny Marr, Ferndale Area District Library Director and MLA Advocacy and Legislative Committee Chair, was the Board’s special guest. She discussed her work with MLA. The MLA Advocacy and Legislative Committee is comprised of 15-20 members from throughout the state. They discuss and review library interests and concerns. This year they are promoting connections with newly elected representatives. Twenty-eight meetings have been scheduled. It offers an opportunity for a connection between library directors and legislators. Bowers has been a part of many of these meetings.

The Committee is also discussing the concern libraries have about the potential of limiting the number of elections in a year. This will have a direct effect on libraries and their millages.

They are also working actively on maintaining penal fines. Also, watching and reviewing bills that are released from the legislator.

Next year’s Chair will be Jessica Keyser, Director of the Grosse Pointe libraries.

5. **New Business- None**

6. **Reports**

Steering Committee – Teasdale reported that the Steering Committee met April 9. The Strategic Planning Committee is meeting every other Friday and currently working on developing a TLN vision and mission statement. Once compiled it will be reported to the Steering Committee who in turn will share it with the membership for feedback.

Reported that MLA is working on developing a state-wide initiative regarding marketing.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be May 7.

Executive Committee – Morse reported that the Committee met and discussed updating the billing formula for fiscal year 2021/22.

20% will be based on circulation
65% will be spread across all shared system libraries
15% will be based upon items linked

Next meeting will be the first Thursday in May.

Finance/Real Estate Committee – None

Human Resources Committee – The Committee met on April 8, to review Executive Director Steven Bowers’ six-month tenure. The committee commends Bowers on his six-months of work at The Library Network and recommends a 5% salary increase. Motion by VanStipdonk, supported by Green, to approve the 5% salary increase for Bowers, effective April 5, 2021. It was noted that a lot of wonderful things have been implemented at TLN since Bowers began on October 5, 2020. Wollenweber – Aye; VanStipdonk –aye; VanBrandeghen- aye; Woodford - aye; Rozell – aye; Green – aye; Hanson – aye. Motion carried unanimously

8. Executive Director’s Report –

In addition to his month report, Bowers included his 6-month review of his work and accomplishments. It is an impressive representation of the work he has performed since joining TLN in October 2020.

Bowers was very excited to share that the Metroparks will be joining the MAP program (Museum Activity Pass) effective May 1. Bowers commended TLN employees Jim Flury and Brigitte Felix for their work with Metroparks, and their continued work keeping MAP a strong, successful, program.

Bowers reported that the EAP (Employee Assistance Program), through Encompass will be launching on May 1. Over 800 library members will be enrolled in this program.

9. Financial Reports – Motion by VanStipdonk, supported by Hanson, to receive and file the following reports. Wollenweber – Aye; VanStipdonk –aye; VanBrandeghen- aye; Woodford - aye; Rozell – aye; Green – aye; Hanson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

- Executive Summary
- Aged Payables Open Items as of 3/31/21
- Check Register Detail from 3/01/2021 – 3/31/2021
- Aged Receivables Detail as of 3/31/2021
- Summary of Revenue & Expenditures Compared to Budget:
October 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021
- October 2020 – March 31, 2021 – Income Statement
- Unaudited Balance Sheet as of 3/31/2021

10. Old Business – None

11. Board Member Comment – Wollenweber discussed the EAP being available to Board members at their cost, approximately \$15.00 per year.

Woodford thanked Marr for her presentation. He congratulated Bowers on all his good work and for obtaining his state certification.

VanBrandeghen discussed an NPR report of reporters going outside urban areas to see how libraries have stepped up during the pandemic to make their lives better.

12. Motion by Woodford, supported by VanStipdonk, to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 a.m.
Wollenweber – Aye; VanStipdonk –aye; VanBrandeghen- aye;
Woodford - aye; Rozell – aye; Green – aye; Hanson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.
13. The next meeting of the Board will be held on:

**Thursday, May 21, 2021 – 9:00 am
Via Zoom**

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Wollenweber
CHAIR

Rita VanBrandeghen
SECRETARY