

TLN Youth Services Committee Meeting Notes
Friday, January 8th, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Angela Warsinske (Rochester Hills) and introductions were made.

The agenda was approved with a motion by Jocelyn Levin (Lyon) and seconded by Erin Look (Auburn Hills).

October minutes were approved with a motion by Jocelyn Levin and seconded by Mechelle Bernard (Southfield).

State and Local Committee Updates

Elissa Zimmer (Ferndale) and Jocelyn Levin (Lyon) reported that the Spring Institute 2021 committee is still accepting proposal applications for live or prerecorded presentations. Spring Institute will take place March 11th and 12th. The theme is *Sparkling Connections and Possibilities*, which explores how we're staying connected even though we're not in person.

- You can submit more than one presentation proposal
- The presentation doesn't have to go with the theme

There were no TLN Updates. A question raised by Jocelyn Levin regarding remote training. Will there be more advanced reports training? Basic classes are being conducted virtually via zoom, currently there are no advanced reports training.

2020 Performer Showcase and Meeting Suggestions

Performers you would like to see in the showcase next year? Virtual Showcase go okay?

Kelly Soerens (Salem-South Lyon) said it was not as much fun, but takes a lot less staff time, and you're able to watch it at your own convenience, instead of a whole day away from the Library.

Karen Smith (Livonia) thought that was beneficial as well!

Kim Burean (Oxford) liked it because we often can't make it to the showcase, so it allowed us to still get to have all the information and videos of them for our planning.

Sara Hodgson (Wixom) liked it. She definitely prefers the in person event but thinks if performers are willing/already have videos it would be nice to send those out each year.

Erin Look (Auburn Hills) said the virtual showcase made it possible to share with the whole staff versus just one person attending, providing the ability to get input from other staff in other age groups.

Mechelle Bernard (Southfield) shared that it was helpful that we didn't need to be somewhere, it could be done on your own time. More people can still make the showcase because it's not time sensitive.

Lisa Murawa (Springfield) asked if the live showcase could be recorded in the future

Nichole Welz (Canton) asked what have virtual program numbers been like? Canton's numbers have been very low for virtual performances.

Elissa Zimmer (Ferndale) also shared that virtual programs weren't worth the money.

Romulus virtual attendance was really poor through Zoom.

The White Lake youth department had low to zero attendees for paid performers, but the adult department had better luck.

Springfield had low turnout as well, they were not worth the cost.

Howell's first virtual programs, which were just video, had low attendance. When they did the live zoom they actually had good attendance but not as much as in person programs. Attendance was calculated by counting devices.

Wixom has offered in-house Zoom story-times which were well attended, but the paid performers get at most 10 people. Paid performers have been limited to every few months.

Redford is still offering one virtual performance a month, spending less than \$100 on each one. Turnout is usually 5-15 patrons.

Taylor also had low attendance on virtual performances. Summer will be conducted virtually with no performers.

Lyon Twp. holiday music program with Bev Meyer had an okay turn out. If they want to watch something it can be found on tv, Netflix, Youtube. Soap and scrub had good teen attendance but not great.

Livonia had low program attendance for virtual performances. Outdoor Storytimes were between 50 - 75 people each time!

Redford is offering no in-person programming this summer, recreating what was done last year, no wait and see. Doing what we can and be happy about it

Romulus is going to try a couple of performers, with the hope of in-person, but will reevaluate closer to summer.

Milford patrons are burned out on Zoom and virtual but love the take home activity bags that are creative and interactive with parents.

At Howell the workshops and programs led by staff have had good attendance.

Walled Lake hasn't had any interest in Zoom or recorded programs at any age level, so we have not booked any performers yet. We are hoping to plan a larger event at the end of the summer, in-person, if things are open and safe by August or so.

Canton will be doing the same, a similar program to last summer but do it well since we all know what we're doing this year.

Kelly Soerens (Salem-South Lyon) asked if anyone was having in-person programs or performers this summer?

Wixom will have no in-person. They will offer make-and-takes, keep the schedule open, phase in small programs.

Belleville decided to do 6-8 all ages programs online (no specific age) paid performers, once summer came no one was watching. Animanga book club for teens (book and japanese snacks for take home) has been working.

Redford is excited about an upcoming program they are going to do with the local parks and rec about invasive species of plants. It will be multi-generational. They will have bingo and self led hikes in the park to weed invasive species.

The Chair brought the conversation back to the performers showcase and it was decided in the future the showcase will have a video component (either recorded or performers provide their own promotional materials).

Ypsilanti had Howell Nature Center for a recorded Owl program (live) with 100 owl pellets. The owl pellets were picked up but only a few watched video.

Lyon Twp. also had an owl program with Longway/Sloan, 50 people picked up pellets and about half participated live with the virtual program.

Pandemic Talk

Libraries open or closed? Curbside?

Salem-South Lyon is open for 30 minute visits, curbside pick up is still available, computers are available for 30 minute sessions, and getting a drive up window.

Lyon Twp. is offering curbside, the vestibule open, when it gets warmer they will put a tent up again.

Belleville is open.

Livonia is open for Grab and Go, and still doing curbside. No in-person programs planned, but we hope to resume Outdoor Storytime when the weather breaks.

Walled Lake is planning on reopening within the next few weeks. They are currently doing curbside and take-and-make kits

Milford will be reopening Sunday [1/10/21] for 30 minute grab and go visits.

Howell is curbside with 30 minutes computer use once a day, only 4 people at a time.

Ferndale is still curbside only.

Madison Heights is still curbside only.

Redford is getting a drive up in the Spring.

Wayne is open for a 30 minute grab and go visit.

Springfield is open regular hours, except closed on Saturday through January. Take and make kits are available and they are considering in-person storytime for Spring.

Auburn Hills is currently only open for lobby and curbside visits.

Taylor has been closed to the public 100% since Thanksgiving. The city is slowly starting to open things, but the floors are being redone so they are working through the construction to still offer curbside and delivery. The city also made a mandate that if they open they have to take down names and contact info for contact tracing and submit to the city. Since that is against the privacy laws they can't follow this mandate and won't be able to open until it's gone.

Novi has its lobby open for hold pickup. No browsing or computers but drive up and lockers are available.

Waterford has entranceway pick up of materials the rest of the building is closed. Staff is rotating working at home.

Rochester Hills rolled back to being curbside/drive up services only but there is talk of moving back to grab and go if the virus stats stay down.

Canton is open for browsing 30 minutes, computers 60 minutes, and curbside appointments.

Oxford is fully open, but they don't have in-person programming

Wixom is currently curbside only. They are trying to work on how to handle computers when they reopen (only four with distancing). They're looking at stats to see when to reopen for 30 minute visits. It will be 30 minutes per day when they do reopen again.

Romulus is open for computer use, but no browsing the stacks at this time. They have placed new materials out for patrons to browse, but no one can venture into the stacks. They are offering curbside, but patrons can come in to pick up their materials.

White Lake is curbside only and all virtual programming for spring.

Southfield computer services have been closed since the November Governor's order, the building is not open.

Erin Look (Auburn Hills) asked how are other libraries handling computers/time limits as they have had some push back?

Howell offers 30 minutes computer sessions, the computers are socially distanced. They did have one issue with an angry patron (almost had to call the police).

Romulus offered 30 minutes for computer use at first, but then opted for 60 minutes to give patrons enough time.

White Lake shared that when they were open for computer use, they had an hour for computers, but the browsing was 30 minute sessions.

Patrons can use the computers for an hour a day at Belleville.

Redford changed the way they're doing computers. The computers were moved, patrons must call ahead to make an appointment. Computer time is 90 minutes with 30 minutes between sessions for cleaning.

Salem-South Lyon offers 30 minute visits which includes both computer and browsing time. Should a patron need more computer time laptops are available. The wifi was extended through the parking lot, and hotspots were added for checkout.

Taylor offers Chromebook checkouts for 2-hour sessions.

Oxford is not limiting computer use; not that many people are using the computers, so it hasn't been an issue.

Wayne is offering computers sessions for 30 minutes only.

Wixom was limited to 30 minutes. They just explained to people that in order to stay open we needed to limit times in the building. Most people understood. They have appointments but will allow walk-ins if there are openings. They make sure to stress to people that they will not be guaranteed a spot if they don't call.

Waterford was offering computer sessions of 45 minutes with a daily maximum of 90 minutes (computers are 6 feet apart). They are currently closed, but expect to return to that status when reopened.

Belleville has hotspots for checkout.

Madison Heights also has hot-spots and laptops available for check out.

Angela Warsinske (RHPL) asked if anyone was offering printing or remote/mobile printing?

Ferndale has hotspots as well. They also offer free black and white printing for curbside pickup up to 25 pages a day.

White Lake patrons can print and pick up via curbside.

Walled Lake has hotspots, but they aren't borrowed often. They are not offering printing or copying services.

Howell has printing, faxing, and coping being offered.

Lyon Twp. is offering printing and faxing by request.

Livonia patrons can email their documents to be printed then picked up.

Auburn Hills offers mobile printing services.

Romulus is offering curbside printing, but patrons can print from a computer as well. Copying services are offered as well.

Wixom is offering curbside printing and faxing. They have hotspots and chromebooks for Wixom residents to checkout.

Waterford has printed out materials for patrons to be picked up.

Taylor offers 10 free printed pages a day, patrons fill out a form and email the information.

At Madison Heights patrons are allowed to email and pick up print jobs

Planning for Spring or trying anything new?

Ferndale is rethinking how to do storytime. They are offering toddler storytime over Zoom (live and recorded); rethought baby storytime (screentime) now providing a Quarantine Corner new parent hour which includes some literacy but mostly a space for new parents to talk. A range of topics discussed (exercise, shared partner responsibility) sign up is required, limited attendance allowed, this program is not recorded.

Nicole Welz (Canton) offered, even though we know how to Zoom, and offering outdoor storytime (until November and starting again in April), it's still hard as we miss the patrons. It's ok to recognize that we're struggling and don't have to have an ever-positive attitude. When planning, acknowledge that it is a lot of the same, we're not over the pandemic yet.

Erin Look (Auburn Hills) shared that it is tiring and we want to do a lot for our families but it is exhausting. How much do we continue to push out for a few views a week? Continue to do videos but focus more on things to take home.

Oxford will have no change from winter except hopefully doing some very small in-person programs for older kids.

Walled Lake will offer outdoor storytimes and man a booth at the farmers market with crafts and information on library services weekly.

Waterford does a daily story reading called "Ready Reads" and will continue through spring. Hoping to do outdoor storytime when weather breaks.

Livonia just started a Dial-a-Story service. They are utilizing a theme each month (Snow for January). The Children's Librarians each read a book having at least 5 new stories each month. They also started doing Storytime-to-Go kits that follow the theme. The kits include crafts, fingerplays, a booklist, and a science activity. They have been pretty successful so far. Dial-a-Story started in the middle of November and was publicized by business cards in take home kits and circulation. November had 39 calls and December 59.

White Lake shared their best program this session of programs so far is the snowman building contest. Patron's submit a photo of their creations over a three month time frame so there was more chances to have snow. The pictures will be posted on Facebook during a week in March and most likes wins the category (sorted by age range). The snowman does not necessarily have to be made of snow (no rule as to material).

Redford is doing something similar to the snowman program for January; but in case it doesn't snow we told patrons they can make snowmen out of anything!

Rochester Hills are offering seasonal bucket lists.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

How are people running their programs? Platforms? Rewards?

Promotions?

Springfield offers the program in a casual format, sign-in on Google sheets, pretty casual. For every 100 books they get a free meal from a community partner, there's a completion Honor Roll Poster with the name of child and date. Then they pick out a book from a list (one for the library and one for the child), the Library book has a bookplate.

Waterford has been doing it a while. They offer paper printouts, every 100 read earns a paperback book (listed on the website). Patrons send the completed booklist via picture or some put it in book drop. There's a bulletin board and as the child advances their card is moved; they receive a completion certificate when finished.

Ypsilanti has had no action since the pandemic hit. They do paper logs, kids get a t-shirt when they finish 1000, nothing before. Then they're added to the Wall of Fame.

Southfield just rebooted it on ReadSquared.

Wixom offers theirs all online, through Beanstack. There are prizes for different milestones. Pre-pandemic they were looking to re-market it but they are holding off for now.

Ferndale offered it totally in-person, using paper sheets or asking folks to use one of the apps (people prefer sheets). They would get prizes for every 100 books and a leaf on the tree in the youth room. It has been on hiatus while closed.

Livonia provides a super relaxed program, it is tracked by spreadsheet. The patrons can use a paper log, or they can use the app. Each 100 books read the child gets a sticker and their name on the Wall of Fame, 500 earns a book bag, 1000 earns a hardcover picture book. They are thinking about moving it to Beanstack. The log just has 100 circles for the kids to color, check off, put stickers on, etc.

Auburn Hills has also been on hiatus during the pandemic as their program is completely in person. They've been debating trying to move it more online but haven't yet. The sheet just has 100 images for the kids to color.

Romulus has a 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. Parents are given a folder when they sign up for the program which has the rules and a list of suggested reading. The kids get a bookmark and sticker after 100 books, a free book at 500 books (it has a sticker in it congratulating them on the half-way point), and a goodie bag with school supplies and a book about kindergarten at 1,000 books. After they read 1,000 books they also get a laminated

certificate with their name on it and their picture is posted on Facebook in the 1,000 Books album plus they get their name on the completion wall. The whole theme is space-related. If anyone is interested in the sample documents, contact Jessica Wilhoite

Oxford has a print-based 1000 books program. Each child is given a folder with the first page (first 100) books. The front page has some reading tips and the back has 100 symbols to color in. Each book read, the child (or parent) colors in a symbol. When they fill up the page, they check in with us. They get a sticker and a prize. Prizes range from coloring sheets, coupons, book bag, bookmark, etc. At 1000 books, they get a free book. The library has decided to keep it print so that the kids have a more tangible connection between their reading and the program. They get a new page each time they check in. People have signed up and checked in during the pandemic. They kept it print based for more of a connection for the kids. They felt an online program is not as tangible. On the front of each of the log pages there is a spot for their favorite books. There is a spot on the wall with each milestone and when the kids get their first 100, they get to fill their name out on a ribbon and tape it under the 100 sign. Each time they reach another milestone, they get to move their ribbon up to the new milestone.

Ypsilanti uses READsquared.

Salem-South Lyon uses READsquared and paper logs. Upon completion the child gets a certificate, their picture taken, and they pick a book topic. Staff orders a new book related to the topic to add to the collection. There's a bookplate with the child's name and they get to be the first to check out the book.

Auburn Hills was planning (but it didn't happen yet) a 1000 Books celebration party, a kick-off/everyone doing the program/graduation if completed event.

Ferndale has had an early learning fair but not a 1000 Books party, maybe a component to add.

Jocelyn Levin shared the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten link:

<https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org/>

Favorite Read of 2020

Share your favorite children's book of 2020! Teen or Adult allowed too.

Kelly Soerens (Salem-South Lyon): *Clown in a Cornfield* by Adam Cesare, a YA novel that reads like a teen slasher book and *My Creepy Valentine* by Arthur Howard picture book about a witch who hated valentine's day until she met Spencer.

Angela Warsinske (Rochester Hills): *The Barnabus Project* by The Fan Brothers; *Lift* by Minh Lê

Mechelle Bernard (Southfield): *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwame Mbalia, an African folktale, I really enjoyed and highly recommended (Rick Riordan publisher), the narrator is excellent

Nicole Brobston (White Lake): My top read of 2020 was *Kingdom of Flesh and Fire* by J L Armentrout! I posted my top 20 of 2020 on my Instagram. It was such a process to decide! But my one was easy to choose.

Natalie Haggard (Lyon Twp): I love *Sanctuary* by Paola Mendoz (teen), *Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle (j biography), *New Kid* by Jerry Craft (j graphic), and I can't count how many picture books I fell in love with this year...

Amanda Gehrke (Madison Heights): A picture book that really stood out to me is, *I Am Every Good Thing* by Derrick Barnes

Becky Price (Taylor): *Nightlights* by Lorena Alvarez is a j graphic that I ADORED.

Jess Doster (Redford) agreed about *Nightlights*

Erin Look (Auburn Hills): I really enjoyed the *Dread Nation* duology by Justina Ireland and the middle grade book *Everything Sad is Untrue* by Daniel Nayeri

Lisa Murawa (Springfield): Adult fiction-*The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides (psychological thriller), J fiction *The Blackbird Girls* by Anne Blankman

Sarah Leonard (Walled Lake): I love *Pugtato* by Sophie Carrington, it is so cute and the art style is adorable.

Nicole Brobston (White Lake) agreed that *Pugtato* by Sophie Carrington is great.

Cynthia Walker (Waterford): *Soaked!* by Abi Cushman, about a grumpy bear, it sums up the year; sometimes you have to do something different to get out of the rut, and you need friends to help you.

Michelle van Well (Wayne): *Woke: A Young Poet's Call to Justice* by Mahogany L. Browne

Nakenya Lewis-Yarbrough (Belleville): *The Twilight Haunting* by Angie Stone, *Ikenga* by Nnedi Okorafor

Jess Doster (Redford): *Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh (jgraphic), *Gustavo, the Shy Ghost* by Flavia Z. Drago (picture book); *Little Weirds* by Jenny Slate, really funny but I also sobbed.

Sara Hodgson (Wixom): *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Rene Watrons; adult books *Invisible Life of Addie Larue* by Victoria Schwab, *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley, *The Starless Sea* by Erin Morgenstern, and *The Mercies* by Kiran Milwood Hargraves

Nicole Brobston (White Lake): *Kingdom of Flesh and Fire* by Jennifer L. Armentrout

Elissa Zimmer (Ferndale): *When No One is Watching* by Alyssa Cole, *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley

Natalie Haggard (Lyon Twp.): *A Taste of Colored Water* by Matt Faulker, *Diana Dances* by Luciano Lozano, *The King Who Banned the Dark* by Emily Haworth-Booth (all picture books). I could list my whole Goodreads.

Jessica Wilhoite (Romulus): *Wayside School: Beneath the Cloud of Doom* by Louis Sachar my son and I loved it.

Nichole Welz (Canton): *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X Kendi (on audio)

Erin Look (Auburn Hills): *Solutions and Other Problems* by Allie Brosh

Mechelle Bernard (Southfield): *Aurora Rising* by Amie Kaufman, which is also not new but the second is out new, so I had to finish it.

Jocelyn Levin (Lyon Twp): *The Missing Dragon* by Ryan Estrada (jgraphic)

Janna VanHouten (TLN): My daughter, 7, is not very interested in reading, but she loves *Grumpy Unicorn* and *Grumpy Unicorn Hits the Road* by Joey Spiotto.

Angela Warsinske (Rochester Hills): Does anyone's libraries have a goodreads? Rochester Hills has one but mostly librarians follow.

Nichole Brobston (White Lake): We have two separate Goodreads, a children's one and a teen one. It's mostly so we can keep track of stuff.

Sara Hodgson (Wixom): At Wixom an adult librarian has been using her personal Goodreads to keep her book club going and interact with people. But it hasn't been to attract new people.

Angela Warsinske adjourned the meeting at 11:21am.

Attendance:

Erin Look	Auburn Hills	Sarah Leonard	Walled Lake
Nakenya Lewis-Yarbrough	Belleville	Michelle van Well	Wayne
Nichole Welz	Canton	Cynthia Walker	Waterford
Elissa Zimmer	Ferndale	Nicole Brobston	White lake
Jennifer MacGillis	Fowlerville	Sara Hodgson	Wixom
Jen Ryan	Howell	Molly Beedon	Ypsilanti
Karen Smith	Livonia		
Natalie Haggard	Lyon Twp		
Jocelyn Levin	Lyon Twp		
Amanda Gehrke	Madison Hts		
Karen Dobson	Milford		
Kirsten Malzahn	Novi		
Suzanne Tison	Orion Township		
Kim Burean	Oxford		
Jess Doster	Redford		
Angela Warsinske	Rochester Hills		
Jessica Wilhoite	Romulus		
Kelly Soerens	Salem-South Lyon		
Mechelle Bernard	Southfield		
Lisa Murawa	Springfield		
Becky Price	Taylor		
Janna VanHouten	The Library Network		