

TLN Youth Services Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 13th, 2021 10:00am

Virtual Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Angela Warsinske at 10:03 AM.

- Introductions were made.
- Approval of Agenda and Minutes
 - Jocelyn Levin (Lyon) motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Mike Dimuzio (Southgate).
 - Cynthia Walker (Waterford) motioned to approve the May minutes, seconded by Tee Versel (Romulus).
- State and Local Committee Updates
 - Jocelyn Levin (Lyon) shared that Spring Institute 2022 will take place March 10-11. This will be in-person at CMU in Mt. Pleasant.
- TLN Updates
 - There were no TLN updates.

October Meeting/Showcase

- In-person or virtual? What is everyone's comfort level?
 - The host Library is not allowing in person programming.
 - Discussion took place about virtual or in-person, and it was decided to hold a virtual showcase this year.
- At this time, TLN has no directives to continue virtual meetings only, but groups may continue to meet virtually if they choose. After discussion it was decided to hold the October meeting virtual. October is traditionally the performer's showcase.

2022 Officer Nominations

- Nominations for the 2022 officer positions were made as follows:
 - Chair-elect: Kelly Soerens (Salem-South Lyon)
 - Secretary: Cynthia Walker (Waterford)
 - A ballot will be emailed to the committee for the vote.
- Meeting location suggestions for January, March, May, August, and October 2022 meetings. These locations could be subject to change if we decide to meet virtually:
 - October 2021: virtual meeting
 - January 2022: Livonia Civic Center
 - March 2022: Redford Township Library
 - May 2022: Royal Oak Public Library
 - August 2022: Romulus Public Library
 - October 2022: Southgate Veterans Memorial Library

Discussion of Summer Reading 2021

- What were your summer successes? What would you have done differently? TIPS/TRICKS for Summer 2022?

- o At Salem-South Lyon grab and go kits were popular and they will continue to offer them during the school year (on a lesser scale).
- o Wixom will be keeping grab and go for summers in the future.
- o Southgate will do the same.
- o West Bloomfield restructured their summer program this year; children earned points that everyone could redeem for smaller prizes versus larger prize drawings that only a few children won.
- o Livonia's summer reading was a hit! Their patrons were very happy to be back to "normal". Take and make crafts were a huge hit, and we're continuing them outside of the summer reading program. Their outdoor story times were wildly popular, upwards of 100 people several times.
- o Romulus had an owl pellet dissection program from the CSLP manual and it was a huge hit, as well as being very simple to set up. They also had a huge success with grab and go kits.
- o Wayne's grab and go crafts were very popular as well. They finished the summer with Ring of Steel performance, it was outside and very successful.
- o Angela Warsinske (Rochester Hills) asked if anyone had good numbers for virtual programs?
- o Southgate had better numbers with on-demand streaming versus live virtual zoom programs.
- o Wixom had good numbers for Zoom storytime, but nothing else. Virtual book clubs kept the people who were previously attending but no new people joined with Zoom.
- o White Lake virtual registration was very low for the summer programs.
- o Livonia did not do virtual programs. Everything was in person, but outdoors. Their Wacky Kids Olympics, petting zoo, art installations, and parkour were all very well attended.
- o West Bloomfield had good attendance for Pre-K programs, they ended up adding time slots; adjusting next year's program so prizes can be books too for activities (this year books were awarded as reading incentives and trinkets for activity based points). Their program runs until September 3rd.
- o Royal Oak attendance numbers were much lower. Patrons picked up craft kits but didn't show up for the event. Those that did were very appreciative.
- o Livonia had Cameron the Magician and that was, of course, uber popular!
- o White Lake also had Cameron, and it was their highest attended program.
- o Waterford held their K9 demonstration program, virtually, in partnership with White Lake. They offered grab and go kits which were continent themed (120 - 150 kits), gift cards for prizes, raffle tickets (kids pick their prize each week), over 300 signed up but only 94 finished. They held outdoor storytime, which was successful.
- o Redford had a bike rodeo, where kids bring their bikes, learn safety, decorated bikes and helmets, and participated in an obstacle course. It was very inexpensive, staff did the program themselves. Their Food Truck series was popular as well.
- o Kelly Soerens (Salem-South Lyon) shared that the Michigan State Police has a tactical bike team that will come to the Library for bike safety programs.

- o Amy Howe (Royal Oak) mentioned that law firms in their area used to sponsor bike safety programs. Between construction and COVID, Royal Oak had no space for outdoor programs.
- o Southfield paired with Parks and Recreation to combine audience participation. They had grab and go kits, and visited the Parks and Recreation camp tadpoles weekly for storytime.
- o Romulus had a mermaid storytime that included a visit for Ariel Party Princess to read stories about ocean life; the kids also made deep sea slime.
- o Amy Howe (Royal Oak) asked if anyone had success using hula hoops for social distancing. The response was that hula hoops got in the way and asking patrons to bring their own blanket worked better.
- o Lyon found that the same families were attending virtual programs, a community developed within this group, they were seeing people at the library programs, but they were not reaching the larger community through virtual. Unfortunately they have no real space for outdoor programs, due to a variety of reasons.
- o Walled Lake held in person storytime outside, but some parents concerned about social distancing, struggle between not liking virtual but not feeling safe in person
- o Wixom is using blankets for outdoor storytimes and that works well.
- o White Lake is planning for in person programming this fall with a hybrid model of in person and virtual. They are also looking into a camera that follows the presenter so they can move around in programs.
- o Southfield will not have in person children's programming for the near future.
- o Redford will be having their programming outside or virtual for the foreseeable future.
- o West Bloomfield has no plans for in person programming the rest of this year.
- o Wixom will continue outdoor storytime, crowd control was easier and patrons can have snacks.
- o Sarah Leonard (West Bloomfield) asked what libraries will do in the case of bad weather?
- o Livonia will continue outside storytimes during the weather-cooperating months. They are weather dependent, canceled when raining.
- o Waterford offers two storytimes a week with a rain day built in, did reschedule one to a Saturday, will continue that in the fall.
- o Salem-South Lyon moved inside, but called participants to let them know first.
- o Southfield partnered with Parks and Recreation, they had more than one event per week; if it rained the event would be cancelled. For the actual camp they moved in the ice arena in the case of rain.
- o Romulus moved inside in the case of rain, they asked adults to wear masks but had no way to enforce it.
- o Wixom had a combination of Zoom and in person (weather dependent), they did not have to cancel any this summer.
- o Jocelyn Levin (Lyon) asked those that work with Parks and Recreation, did people pay to attend? Any issues partnering with anyone who charges patrons?

- o Southfield shared that there was no charge for the Parks and Recreation programs that they did, it was outside and more of an open house style. For the Parks and Recreation paid programs, they advertised for them but were clear that they were Parks and Recreation programs.
- o Redford partners with Parks and Recreation, they do not charge.
- o Wixom partners with Parks and Recreation for tree lighting but opens the library for crafts, but the Library pays for the craft. Don't otherwise partner due to cost.
- o Redford held a drive through trick or treat last year and it was popular. Also, Parks and Recreation will partner with us to do free programs.
- o Wixom hosted Cameron Zvara at a local park (more space and close to an outlet).
- o Romulus hosted Cameron at a near by park, Parks and Recreation allowed since it was a one time event.
- o Southfield held programs on their lawn.
- o Rochester Hills did storytime at the parks (not at a pavilion).
- o Royal Oak held SRP opening day at the local park with a pavilion, at no cost.
- o Livonia Parks and Recreation invited the Library to a lot of their events for the library presence. For example, they will be attending the food truck event in a couple weeks.
- o Walled Lake held storytimes at the farmers market and local parks.
- o Cynthia Walker (Waterford) asked what can we do to keep kids reading and completing this summer? There was still some hesitancy, no one was hanging around.
- o Southfield found a lot of people were spending more time together going out of town.
- o Rochester Hills offered incentives along the way to encourage people to finish versus just at the end.
- o Wixom having kids pick out of the treasure chest was a big incentive (had to read one hour a week), weekly incentive really encouraged more logging and interaction

Fall 2021 Programs

- Is your library rolling back in-person programs due to the Delta variant?
 - o Belleville's Animanga club is moving to in person but creating a Zoom link for those that want to do it virtually, same for comic book club. Sometimes transportation might be a problem so this hybrid option allows more accessibility.
 - o Salem-South Lyon is moving to in person for programs.
 - o Waterford is going forward with outdoor, but will move inside if the weather is bad. They will have drop-in lego, storytimes, crafts, but will adapt if things go bad. Hope to make people feel comfortable and safe.
 - o Royal Oak will remain remote/virtual.
 - o Livonia will be moving to indoor programming and storytime.
 - o Redford will be virtual or outside.
 - o Wayne is going in person.
 - o Southgate has no outdoor space and the city wasn't able to provide use of parks so they were limited in programming. Programming will be held off until at least November. Grab and go kits will continue.

- o Wixom is renovating the craft room, so no programs until October. Outdoor storytime as long as possible, keeping Zoom storytimes, book clubs in person since they're so small. Grab and go kits will continue monthly for each age group. Hoping to delay inside programs until kids can be vaccinated.
- o Southfield is offering Zoom baby bounce, toddler and preschool storytime. Book groups will be online too.
- o Romulus is a rural community and does not have success with virtual services. Going forward they will be fully in-person, but with the meeting room renovations they will do very little from November-March. They are talking with the schools about potentially using their space.
- o West Bloomfield will be virtual through the fall including a Grandparent's Day craft and virtual Halloween Spooktacular.
- o Ferndale had planned in-person but dialed back, virtual until further notice.
- o Salem South Lyon will be hosting a Magical Unicorn Society program, it will take place outside.
- o Belleville is planning for in person programs but will move online if necessary.
- o Royal Oak has gone back and forth on the decision.
- o Livonia will have a One City One book program this fall, the book will be *Arc of Justice*. They also hosted a Doc McStuffins storytime for kids as part of kick-off and will be going back to Lego free play one Saturday a month.
- o Royal Oak is planning a Bad Guy virtual party for September. They also have 2 virtual author visits scheduled.
- o Lyon has plans for allowing community center use starting September 1st, but may reconsider depending on COVID numbers in the area.
- o Romulus will be hosting a craft buffet for September to allow kids free reign at craft supplies for a few hours. They are also starting a D&D club.
- o Livonia created craft bags with miscellaneous items last fall to clear out excess craft supplies. They gave kids a mini pumpkin or paper cut out to decorate with the grab bag items. The kids enjoyed it and they got rid of random craft items.
- o Lyon is planning Craftapalooza in September; craft grab bags last year (labeled from Lyon) taken to local businesses and festivals for distribution
- o Rochester Hills summer finale is going to be the extra leftover crafts.
- How are you planning the unknown in the fall?
 - o Jordan Wright (Ferndale) asked what is the metric to use to decide to go back to inperson programming?
 - o There was discussion about in person programming versus virtual. No universal decision or metrics for determination, consensus was it is hard to know when to move from virtual to in person.
 - o Many libraries have not put their toys out yet. Other restrictions have been lifted.
 - o West Bloomfield has a statement stating that we cannot require vaccines so the public is taking on the risk when they come to the library

Adjournment 11:14

Attendance:

Nakenya Lewis-Yarbrough	Belleville Area District Library
Lauren Aquilina	Commerce Township Community Library
Jordan Wright	Ferndale Area District Library
Kristen Jayska	Livonia Public Library
Jocelyn Levin	Lyon Township Public Library
Kirsten Malzahn	Novi Public Library
Angela Warsinske	Rochester Hills Public Library
Tee Versele	Romulus Public Library
Amy Howes	Royal Oak Public Library
Emily Crosby	Royal Oak Public Library
Mechelle Bernard	Southfield Public Library
Mike Dimuzio	Southgate Veterans Memorial Library
Janna VanHouten	TLN
Cynthia Walker	Waterford Public Library
Michelle van Well	Wayne Public Library
Sarah Leonard	West Bloomfield Township Public Library
EmmaLee Herlocher	White Lake Township Library
Sara Hodgson	Wixom Public Library

Submitted by: Kelly Soerens, Salem-South Lyon District Library