

SUBURBAN LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
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COUNCIL MINUTES
Suburban Library Cooperative
March 9, 2023

- I. The meeting was called to order by DeVilbiss at 9:34 a.m. at Clinton-Macomb Main Library.

Present: Smith (Armada), Neal (Clinton-Macomb), Todd (Eastpointe), McDowell (Fraser), Valyi-Hax (Harper Woods), Goins (Harrison Twp.), Bogaert (Lenox) calling in from New Haven, Kammer (Lois Wagner), Ryals (MacDonald), DeMeulenaere (Ray Twp.) calling in from Ray Twp., Meeker (Romeo), Ester (Shelby Twp.), Orlando (St. Clair Shores), Dumas (Troy) calling in from Troy, DeVilbiss (SLC), Frezza (SLC) and Linsday (SLC).

Absent: Johnson (Center Line), Magness-Eubank (Chesterfield), Bowman (Mount Clemens), Harvey (Roseville), Turgeon (Sterling Heights), Francis (Utica) and Urban (Warren).

Guests: Meghan Mott, Clinton-Macomb Public Library
- II. Approval of the Agenda.
Valyi-Hax made a motion to approve the agenda, supported by Meeker. Motion Carried.
- III. Approval of the Minutes.
Ester made a motion to approve the February 9, 2023 minutes, supported by Orlando. Motion Carried.
- IV. Discussion Topic: Prison Reference – Meghan Mott, Clinton-Macomb Library
Some libraries have started receiving and answering reference questions from inmates at the Macomb County Jail through the US mail. Is this a service libraries would want to promote? Are there any policies in place? What are some of the restrictions/requirements in answering these requests (no staples)? Mallorie will contact someone at the Macomb County Jail to invite them to speak at one of the Council meetings to see how we can best serve this underserved population, either on a Cooperative level or through individual libraries.
- V. Suburban Library Cooperative Business
 - A. Automation System
The Authority work is complete, let Chris know if you are having any problems. Polaris still has a moratorium on custom reports. There have been some problems with holds in Vega. SLC staff is trying unsuccessfully to meet weekly with Polaris to discuss issues. Polaris has been limiting these meetings to one half hour per meeting. Amy and Chris will be attending the Polaris Users Group conference in May.
 - B. Delivery RFP Committee
The contract with City Wheels is set to expire this September, 2023. Tonya Ryals (MacDonald), Claire Meeker (Romeo), Katie Ester (Shelby Twp.), and Lorena McDowell (Fraser) have volunteered to be on the Delivery RFP Committee. The RFP would be issued sometime in June 2023.
 - C. SRP Mini Grants/Literacy Project
The Cooperative has \$15,000 available for libraries to apply for mini grants for Summer Reading/Literacy. The Cooperative issued mini grants last year and the Children's Roundtable met last October to discuss what programs worked and what did not work. Do they have any recommendations for programs the Cooperative could support for all SLC libraries?
 - D. SLC Trustee Roundtable
The Cooperative would like to start up Library Trustee workshops again as a way for library trustees to network and discuss a variety of topics. The workshops will be sometime in May and October. The Shelby Library volunteered to host the May meeting in the evening. Food will be provided.
- VI. Announcements and Information
 - A. Advocacy – Everyone
MLA Advocacy Day is April 25 in Lansing. The Cooperative is one of the sponsors for this event. MLA Advocacy Hour is March 16 and the topic will be the First Amendment and intellectual freedom, with U of M Law professor Len Niehoff as guest speaker. There are currently bills in legislative committee about open carry laws. MLA would like to see libraries added to the list of places prohibiting the open carrying of weapons.
- VII. Member Libraries' Announcements/Concerns
ARM: Children's and Teen programming going very well. New materials and toys are available to library patrons.

CMM: Parents have been complaining at School Board, City Council and Macomb County Commission meetings about objectionable books in their schools. Repair work continues at the library.

EPL: Will host first meeting with local legislator this Saturday. An Eagle Scout is working on a Story walk to be placed in one of the city's parks. There will be a presentation of the project at the next City Council meeting for their approval. Hired a part-time youth services librarian. Starting a Library of Things collection. The library will be going fine free.

FRA: Looking into copiers/copy stations. Also, starting to look for other locations for the library, hopefully to be paid for through grants and/or sponsorships.

HPW: Work on the lower level of the library is continuing. Carpeting and walls have been done. Will be creating an archival room. Looking to hire persons for circulation and youth services.

HTL: The library has a vacancy on the board – seven persons have applied for the position. Added digital newspapers through Newsbank and now subscribe to Mango Languages. Looking to hire part-time circulation staff with the increase in open hours.

LWM: Seventeen classes from the local elementary school will be visiting the library. Received notice of a bequest from a deceased patron, waiting to see what the amount will be.

MPL: Having problems with the Early Literacy panel, looks to be an installation issue. Starting a Seed Library. Library Board is elected and applications for the board must be submitted by April 25th.

ROG: A child patron donated \$22 toward the purchase of more unicorn books. Envisionware holds lockers will be installed next week. Looking a building expansion with a youth service programming area, drive through book return and an automated sorting system. Hired Jen the SLC intern as a temporary employee for a digitizing project.

SBL: The library reopened on Monday. Have to redo the parking lot, moving handicapped parking to a different area.

SCS: Working on budgets, submitted a capital improvements wish list. Attended a webinar on Federal Grant.

TPL: Received a bid on the Strategic Plan. The library will be getting a Bookmobile.

SLC: Thank you to the Clinton-Macomb Library for hosting today's meeting and providing information and a tour of their "Collection of Things" available for check out to their residents. The Book Repair Workshop is full and there is a waiting list in case of cancellations.

VIII. Public Participation

None

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

X. Next meeting date

The next meeting will be April 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at the Suburban Library Cooperative.