

**Northern Lights Library Network
Governing Board Meeting
December 10, 2022
Zoom Conference Call**

Present:

- Kathy Enger, Executive Director, NLLN
- Glenn Heinecke, President, NLLN; NLLN School Library Representative
- Linda Schell, Lake Agassiz Regional Library Representative (LARL)
- George Deiss, Kitchigami Regional Library System Representative (KRLS)
- Sheri Levasseur, Secretary, NLLN; School Library Representative
- Charlie Lindberg, Northwest Regional Library Representative (NWRL)
- Laurie Villwock, NLLN Special Library Representative
- Linda Holecek, Lake Agassiz Regional Library Representative (LARL)
- Lina Belar, NLLN Special Library Representative
- Paula DeMars, NLLN Alternate Academic Library Representative
- Bethany Hait, NLLN Public Library Representative
- Deb Keena, Office Manager, NLLN
- Aleta Sanford, Minute-taker, NLLN

1. Call to Order.
 - a. 10:01 A.M.
2. Oath of Office. Welcome to Paula DeMars, NW Technical College, Academic Alternate; Bethany Hait, Thief River Falls Library, Public Library Representative.
 - a. Paula and Bethany must sign the Oath and return to Kathy.
3. Review and approve Agenda, Minutes, Financial Reports.
 - a. Agenda.
 - i. Linda H., Linda S. MCU
 - b. Minutes.
 - i. Linda S., Charlie MCU
 - c. Financial Reports.
 - i. NLLN is on track for the fiscal year in terms of expenditures at approximately 40% of the budget spent. Please note that the fee for email and website maintenance is paid up-front in July.
 - ii. Kathy has requested that the new accounting firm add the prior year to the Profit and Loss statement for comparison.
 - iii. Sheri, George MCU
4. Old Business.
 - a. OCLC payment.
 - i. For approximately 20 years, NLLN has purchased a subscription to the OCLC's CatExpress through a consortium. Due to lack of transparency for how the funds were being spent, NLLN canceled the subscription.
 - ii. OCLC charged NLLN \$17,000 due to the number of records used. This was, in fact, an error and NLLN was overbilled. Jim, the director of the NWRL, spoke with the CEO of OCLC and negotiated the return of the

\$17,000 to NLLN. The overbilling was due to a few updates to the system that distorted how many records were actually being used.

- iii. NWRL would like to request that NLLN resubscribe to OCLC because the lowest price they are able to negotiate is still too high and NLLN's subscription provided the service to more libraries at a fraction of the cost.
 - 1. Kathy will speak with Jim, the NWRL director, about the matter and work with OCLC
 - b. ARPA funds.
 - i. NLLN should be receiving an additional \$10,000 in ARPA funds for this fiscal year. However, with the discovery of the misuse of funds by those who kept money meant to be used for school food programs, the program is under increased scrutiny.
 - ii. Kathy is filling out all the paperwork required and working to understand the requirements necessary to receive the funding. There is some stipulation that the funds must either be expended or encumbered by December 30th in order to receive the funding. She is looking into the matter further to ensure NLLN receives the expected funding.
 - c. CoverOne machine at Wheaton School.
 - i. With the leftover funds from last year's budget, NLLN bought the Wheaton School a book repair machine. Karen Breach has repaired many of the library's paperback Scholastic books since receiving the machine and will be demonstrating its use at the next "Better Together" workshop.
 - d. Media Literacy.
 - i. Found at <https://levelupmn.org/23things>, this module training regarding mis- and dis-information is available to all. Modules include Digital Literacy 101; Propaganda: Creating Response; Attention Economy: Information is not Scarce, Attention is; Synthetic Media; Detecting Deepfakes; Disinformation, Misinformation, Malinformation; Critical Thinking; Logical Fallacies; News Literacy: Evaluating Sources; Digital Citizenship; Fake News; Today's Media Landscape; and Is Media Literacy the Answer?
 - ii. Those who complete the entire set of modules are eligible for CEU credits if they register.
5. New Business.
- a. Adell Bridgeford gifts to Pelican Rapids Library and crochet thread to Pine River Library and Concordia Library.
 - i. Adell has given many gifts over the years. Kathy recently brought a carload of story book characters and books, as well as library essential materials, to Pelican Rapids so Nanette could get some of the characters and books that were shared at the last "Better Together" workshop.
 - ii. Adell also donated her mother's crochet thread to Pine River and Concordia.
 - b. Dr. Jill Frederick (MSUM Emerita) gift to Morris High School.
 - i. NLLN facilitated the shipment of part of Dr. Frederick's collection to Morris High School.
 - c. Dr. Thom Tamaro (MSUM Emeritus) gift to Remer Northland School.

resource on their own catalogs. Minitex will also provide cataloging services for a fee, if libraries are interested in that approach.

- j. Architect available.
 - i. Kathy has known and worked with David Krutchfield for over a decade to help connect him with libraries in the NLLN region for architectural consultations. He provides the advice free of charge because he really enjoyed his past experience designing rural libraries in Michigan. He now has a colleague, Whitney Lee, willing to provide services to the NLLN region, as well.
 - ii. Professor Krutchfield helped with the Bagley Public Library, Geenbush Public Library, and the Laporte and Campbell school libraries.
 - iii. Please contact Kathy if you are interested in speaking with David or his colleague and she can put you in touch with them.
- k. MLS Legislative Committee.
 - i. Kathy and Ann Walker Smalley will represent the multitype systems on this committee for the next two years. Kathy will be the primary representative for the first year, with Ann as her alternate; and Ann will be the primary representative for the second year, with Kathy as her alternate.
 - ii. Glenn may also represent school libraries. He is waiting for a response with further information before deciding.
- l. Legislative Directory.
 - i. NLLN's directory of all state and national representatives will be updated in January.
 - ii. It is available on the NLLN website
- m. Door knocking in North Moorhead.
 - i. Kathy and her husband, Lin, knocked on doors in Moorhead in favor of the initiative for a new Moorhead Public Library and Community Center.
 - ii. It was fun for them to go door to door, meet people, see their interest in the initiative, and get to know the community better.
 - iii. The initiative passed by 62%!
- n. Health Fair at White Earth: Reading is Healthy.
 - i. Kathy provided academic resources and literature supporting the assertion that reading is healthy.
 - ii. The resources were very popular.
- o. Reports from board members.
 - i. Linda S: The LARL system is very excited about the new Moorhead library and community center initiative passing. Several other libraries are looking into changes that need to be made, as well. They are hosting open houses to get their communities to come and spend time in the libraries.
 - 1. Fundamentally, libraries are community spaces and one of the few remaining places that doesn't ask people to spend money. They are also important to struggling community members, such as those without homes who need a warm place to be during the winter, or those without the ability to connect to the internet or the ability to use modern technology.

- ii. Sheri: With the new 2023/4 standards requiring schools to teach Native American literature, does anyone have resources that could be helpful to prepare for the implementation of these standards? An instructional coach who just returned from a training session reported that the standards require the authors be registered Minnesota tribal members, which rules out many resources like Louise Erdrich. Hopefully more information and resources are provided by those writing and implementing the standards, but at this point there isn't much to go on.
 - 1. Laurie will share resources she has.
 - 2. Bethany recommends Debbie Reese as a starting point, although she's not Minnesotan, her resources are nationwide, and she has sometimes strong and controversial opinions. However, her resources may provide a place to begin.
 - 3. NLLN has a list of Native American Literature on their website, which Kathy will share out. Her friend Denise Lajomodiere also has some good resources, particularly on the boarding schools, although she is a registered member of the Turtle Mountain tribe, located in North Dakota. Additionally, Cassie (a former employee at State Library Services) did a webinar for NLLN on Native American literature for NLLN. Kathy will search for the recording and share that and reach out to Cassie again.
 - 4. Additionally, MDE is also providing information and beginning to train instructional coaches, who will go out to their districts to teach about the new standards.

6. Adjourn

- a. 11:16 A.M.