

**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES – Official  
Thursday, August 11, 2022, following the Board meeting  
Kent District Library Service Center**

Council Members Present: Britney Dillon (IB), Elyshia Hoekstra (OC), Mary Cook (OA)

Staff Present: Carol Dawe, Sheryl VanderWagen, Amber McLain

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 10:11 a.m. by Chair, Britney Dillon. There were 25 additional participants.
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Kerry Fountain (IS) moved, supported by Kelly Tinkham (NN), to approve the agenda as presented - *motion carried*.
- 3) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
- 4) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - a) Teresa Kline (AF) moved, supported by Mary Johnson (MADL), to approve the Advisory Council minutes from July 14, 2022, as presented – *motion carried*.
- 5) **BOARD REPORT:** Dale Parus gave a summary of the board activities at the previous meeting.
- 6) **ILS MANAGERS REPORT:**

Sheryl VanderWagen pointed out her written report. She also discussed the progress of the conversion of phone notices to MessageBee. Caller ID with Lakeland has been set up and tested and test files will be submitted the week after next. She will be on vacation the week of August 15. When she returns, she will begin collecting contacts from each library so that the individual library caller ID's can be set up. However, the service will go live with the Lakeland caller ID and the individual library caller ID's will be set up with Unique after the go live.
- 7) **MEMBER SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Amber McLain reported that the address verification with Patron Point is undergoing testing now. Several kinks have been worked out of the system. Once the initial testing is completed for all forms for all 40 libraries, she will begin live testing with three of the member libraries (MADL, Georgetown, and Hudsonville).
- 8) **COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Carol Dawe had nothing to add to her written report.
- 9) **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
  - a) Continuing Education Committee – The committee will meet on August 25, 2022, to plan for the upcoming year. The Youth Services Fair is scheduled for September 2 at Georgetown Township Public Library; check the Lakeland website for details and to register. Amber McLain reported that she has received 72 responses to the training survey to date. She will send out the link again to remind everyone to complete it if they have not already done so.
- 10) **OTHER REPORTS:**
  - a) MLA Legislative Committee Report – Shirley Bruursema (KDL) and Dale Parus (IC) reported there has been little activity due to the recent and upcoming elections. They

expect to see action on several items during the lame duck session following the November election.

11) **ONGOING BUSINESS:**

- a) Intellectual Freedom – Carol presented a question for discussion regarding displays and their necessity and use in public libraries: Why do we have displays? This is a comment that came up several times in remarks made at the Patmos Library meeting where residents suggested that displays should be removed. Comments from members were wide ranging including:
- Displays are designed to be low key.
  - Patrons use displays to find things in which they have an interest, and they enjoy the color and discovery provided by them.
  - Sometimes choices made regarding displays is a form of passive censorship.
  - Patrons often object to where a display is placed in the library, not necessarily the display itself.
  - Displays offer opportunities for library staff to engage in patron education.
  - Displays communicate the diversity of the community served by libraries.
  - Displays encourage patrons to check out materials that are sitting unnoticed on library shelves.
  - It is useful to schedule displays on an annual basis and publish that schedule as needed.
  - The balance of the items in a display can vary from day to day because items are continuously checked out from it as patrons use the library.
  - If we remove one display because someone or a group of people object to it, then we are obligated to remove the next one that is singled out by another patron or group of patrons.
  - The intent of displays is to market the library's collection and draw attention to it. There will always be issues with inclusion of diverse perspectives in a diverse community. We need to face that and to go through it and to communicate with patrons on the importance of providing that diversity.

12) **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) 2022-2023 Budget Packet Review – The Finance Committee is recommending the budget to the Advisory Council. There were no questions. Cierra Bakavka (AW) moved, supported by Mary Johnson (MADL) to recommend the proposed 2022-2023 Budget as presented to the Lakeland Board – *motion carried*.
- b) 2022-2023 Meeting Dates – Peggy Hermerling (BH) moved, supported by Jessica Hunt (NG) to approve the proposed meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 as presented – *motion carried*.

13) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- a) Jessica Hunt asked for a listing of libraries that offer hotspots, their loan periods, and fine rates. Amber McLain will do a survey and compile the results for posting to the website.
- b) Cierra Bakavka announced that the Henika District Library will be hosting an open house celebration on September 17 to highlight their recent renovations to the library.

- 14) **NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, September 8, 2022, following the Board meeting at the Kent District Library Service Center.

- 11) **ADJOURNMENT:** Cierra Bakavka (AW), supported by Mary Johnson (MADL) moved to adjourn at 11:02 a.m. - *motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by,  
Sheryl VanderWagen