

Lakeland Library Cooperative
Adult Services Committee Meeting
February 17, 2026
Zoom Virtual Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7407387755>
2pm

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Chair: Katie Alphenaar, Vice Chair: Vacant, Secretary: Kristin Skinner

- I. Greetings and Introductions - Call to Order (2pm)
- II. Additions to the Agenda
- III. Approval of the Agenda
 - A. Motion by Alison Anderson (Spring Lake District Library), seconded by Shanni Kerr (Ionia Community Library)
- IV. Approval of the Minutes from the December 8, 2025 meeting
 - A. Motion by Kristin Skinner (Flat River Community Library), seconded by Tawnee Szczepanek (Allendale Township Library)
- V. Lakeland Reports
 - A. Amber reviewing Lakeland website for accessibility
 - B. ILS Evaluation Committee moving forward with a quote from Polaris
- VI. Continuing Education Reports
 - A. Amber sent out slides on MI Right to Read MLA initiative
- VII. New and Unfinished Business
- VIII. Discussion - How Can Lakeland Better Support You?
 - A. Abby Black (Allendale Township Library) suggested an adult summit where adult librarians spend a day sharing and learning from each other
 1. Alison said they've discussed this in the Continuing Education Workgroup
 2. Amber going to make a poll about when to have it, have a planning group
- IX. Resource Sharing Round Robin - do you have a new resource, program, or presenter to share?
 - A. Tawnee did a wood burning program for adults and the program was very popular, but depended on number of outlets so low attendance count
 - B. Kevin Hawley (Loutit District Library) had the Ottawa County Registrar Office come to talk about elections (very well attended) and doing another in the summer that's interactive. Jigsaw Puzzle Contests twice a month in the winter is very popular (contact Kevin if interested in being added to the google list for puzzle sharing).
 - C. Annaka Koster (Herrick District Library) hosted Korean Connection West Michigan and did a tea ceremony and tea tasting, with a great turnout (cost \$400, they provided tea and snacks)
 - D. Sarah Goy (Saugatuck-Douglas District Library) suggested a Lakeland-wide puzzle race

1. Each library have their own night, and then compare times at the end and have a ceremony
 2. Abby suggested a gaudy trophy
 - E. Kevin did fantasy football contest, said he could coordinate a Lakeland wide one
 - F. Shanni had Mocktails and Masterpieces with prepared drinks and did a paint by number that was well-attended
 - G. Barbara Haywood (Hastings Public Library) had good sign-ups for beginning embroidery and next stitches
 - H. Alison had Jerry Berg come to talk about swords, Kristin agrees he is great with swords and history presentations
 - I. Amber does budget true crime programming (genetic genealogy and crimes, America's first serial killers)
- X. Tips and Tricks - do you have any tips or tricks when it comes to assisting adult patrons (both inside and outside of programs)?
- A. Tawnee said adult patrons just want to be seen and heard
 - B. Shanni asked if there's anything to help with no-shows with registration
 1. Kristin suggested deposit amount that they get back, kept in an envelope by the cash register
 2. Alison suggested to call each person
 3. Kevin suggested do registration close to event, 2-weeks prior
 - C. Abby asks if anyone has ideas for knitting group ideas to make for the community outside of the winter
 1. Barbara gathered socks for local women's shelter and United Way
 2. Shanni suggested animal shelters
 3. Amber suggested NICU for baby blankets, shared the links:
 - <https://www.childrens.com/get-involved/donate/handcraft-items> ;
 - <https://craftydaisies.com/charities-that-welcome-knitted-donations/>
 4. Katie said they have a knitting group that's independent and do their own projects. Doing a kindness crafts day where they are making toys for the local humane society
 - D. Tawnee said Allendale is now doing four book clubs and having trouble getting the books due to other libraries reading the same books
 1. Shanni suggested MelCat
 2. Katie says her book club plans 6 months to 1 year out
 3. Kevin says libraries maybe not hold all of the books that multiple communities will be interested in
 4. Tawnee says she can share her titles to make sure resources can be shared
- XI. Summer Reading - Any mulit-gen or adult programs you are excited about? What adult prizes are you planning?
- A. Katie does all ages summer reading (The Grand Adventure) and themed all activities to a variety of abilities. Everyone gets finisher prizes and 10-15 grand prizes that anyone can put in for. Combined youth and adult summer reading and

increased numbers for adults, Redeem coupons for finisher prizes (carwash, bobo milk tea), move away from physical prizes

- B. Annaka said they do one map activity log for whatever age, prize is free book and one prize collected throughout the year (set-aside programming room for one week and choose their prizes, all decorated but needs to be staffed, feels special), gets books to discount book sellers (will share website)
 - 1. <https://www.bookdepot.com/>, <https://bookoutlet.com/>, Books4School and Bulk Bookstore. All four of those have a way to set up tax exempt accounts as well.
 - C. Kristin suggested signing up for all the arc giveaways and Kensington sends a lot throughout the year
 - D. Amber suggested Librarian subreddit for advice
- XII. Next Meeting - April 21, 2026 @ 2 PM
- XIII. Motion to Adjourn (2:58pm)
- A. Motion by Annaka, seconded by Tawnee