



Director's Report May 2020

A. Looking Ahead:

All in person programming has been cancelled for the summer.

Anne is working on a couple of virtual programs in June and August that will both be video recorded and audio recorded for a podcast. We now have a YouTube account, which Nicole is uploading some of the storytimes.

- B. Grants** – Anne is working on a HOPE grant to offset payroll and utilities costs for the theater that we lost from the cancellation of the Smithsonian Exhibit. She is also looking at another grant to possibly pay for an annual subscription to Zoom and some other tech equipment to do virtual programming.
- C. Smithsonian** – not coming. I did fill out a survey and asked why, when everything is open, that we couldn't get it back here when it will just be in storage anyway.
- D. Summer Reading** – we are going to utilize a free software program (through Library of Michigan) called Wandoo Reader that kids can login and report reading logs. Plans are in development with staff member Kelly to offer take home kits, social media posts and two virtual presenters for Summer Reading.
- E. Theater Concessions** – can open for curbside delivery (thankfully we have a window at theater for that) and as long as Health Dept. protocols are in place we are good to offer that service.
- F. Library Conversations** – may have to hold virtual meeting for the public.
- G. PI County Clerk** – on the ballot for August. Please read Advance article for more. We will continue to push our social media content and once flyers are printed we can have volunteers put them up around open businesses.
- H. Layoffs** – Phase I has been implemented. A few hurrles with our MiWam account online, but those that have applied are getting their unemployment.
- I. MLA** – I have been elected as a new board member for Michigan Library Association and my term starts immediately. Presented as a MLA Board member and rural library director for MLA Coffee Hour on May 7th. Already fielding concerns from Northland Library Cooperative members.
- J. Little Bits** – water testing is still being done for Grand Lake (Mon. – Wed.). MLA 2020 Conference is still on and I am still on committee, as it gets closer, it may turn into a virtual conference.
- K. Staff** - I would like to commend the staff through this tough time. They are remaining positive, in light of concerns, and are fulfilling their roles and duties to the best of their ability.

Amber Alexander