

Final Minutes
MarLA Board Meeting
August 21, 2023 MCL/Hybrid
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Deb Yanker Black, Beth Honetschlager, Jim Maher, Janice Hunton, Kathy Scoggin, Lynn Bjorkman, Anne Keogh, Sophia Spisak, Elaine Larson

Members Absent: Mary Burke, Annie Minnich, Laurie Schmidt

Also Present:

Paul Creager

Agenda

Welcome and Call to Order – Jim

Reading of Land Acknowledgement Statement – Jim

Secretary’s Report – Janice

- Minutes of June 26, 2023 meeting were presented.
- Discussion: none
- Beth moved to approve, Lynn seconded; minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report – Anne

- Current financial position/state of activity: strong position as usual. Expenses are under budget currently, and donations are slightly higher than projected. CDs are maturing soon, and we agreed to keep them where they are.
- Jim moved to approve Anne Keogh, Treasurer, to have complete access to our accounts, to deposit, withdraw, and transfer funds as needed. Kathy seconded this motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Marine Documentary Night – Paul Creager

- Paul provided a brief history of Documentary Night and the Marine Film Society. Due to changes in the granting priorities for MRAC, the Film Society has not received funding for Documentary Night in the past three years. Paul requested that the MCL continue their support of these programs, and work in collaboration with the Marine Film Society to find sustainable funding sources. Some funding ideas include a return to the Oscar Night Gala, a direct fundraising campaign for Documentary Night, and sponsors for specific events.
- Questions included the ideal budget for future seasons, whether we would consider making these ticketed events, and how we could lower expenses for the events without compromising quality.
- Further discussion shows strong support from the MCL board to continue to help support Doc night. We also agree with Paul that artists need to be paid for their time and expertise. We would like the Marine Film Society to submit a budget for the 23-24 season, and we will decide how to proceed at our October meeting.

Committee Reports

Adult Programming – Jim

- August 19 at Scandia's Gammelgarden - 93 people stopped by during the Spelmansstammen
- Sept 7, author talk with Jim Lammers discussing his book Barns of the St. Croix Valley
- September 30 - River Radio starts their new season
- Deb Yanker Black is joining the adult programming committee.

Art – Jim

All artists are from the Marine Area

- Through the end of August: Tom Maakestad
- Beginning of September through the end of November: Bob White
- Beginning of December through the end of February: Ginny Averill (TBD)
- Beginning of March through the end of May: Carrie Katzenmeyer

Children's Programing – Kathy

- Five story time events were held this summer in the Marine gazebo, and have included reading and activity. Attendance ranged from 3 to 13.
- Bingo night was well attended.
- Washington County libraries have provided funds for two events - the Hula Hoopers and a Magician.
- Summer reading program is finishing up, and prizes will be awarded soon.
- Collaboration with the Marine Village school is expanding, with details forthcoming, perhaps in conjunction with school conference days.
- Family game nights will continue.
- There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony this month for the new Little Free Library in Scandia.

Collections – Beth

- At the July 15 meeting, the committee identified two policy changes for the MCL board to approve: where books can be returned, and who is eligible to get a MCL library card.
- Marine books dropped off at other libraries are not coming back to us. The collections committee is requesting that MCL books can only be returned to the library book drop or the Washington County bookdrop on the north side of the Village Hall. Discussion included how to educate patrons, and also how to educate other branch libraries about how to return MCL books if/when they are returned there. We agreed to put a slip in each book with new instructions, and add signage to the library. Jan will update handbook, make signs for library and slips to put in books. Beth moved to limit book returns to the above locations, Deb seconded, and it was unanimously approved.
- Severely overdue books are also not being returned, and often are checked out to people who are summer residents of the Marine area but live elsewhere for the remainder of the year. The committee is requesting that MCL cards only given to **permanent** local residents within a 10 mile residents. There already exists a map in handbook, but volunteers need to emphasize permanent residency before issuing MCL cards. Jan will update handbook and make signs. Beth reminded us that visitors who are not eligible for a MCL card can buy books from our shelf, or help themselves to the free books in the lobby.

- Approximately \$2000 have been given to the MCL in honor of Joyce Leslie, and those funds are being used to purchase new items for our collection.
- The committee recommended 80 books, and will purchase roughly 50 of them.
- A question was asked whether music CDs are ever checked out, and whether they should be moved (or removed) to make room for more books. The collections committee will look into circulation data and report back in October.
- We are in the process of creating “volunteer picks” cards to recommend books to patrons.

Fundraising – Jim

- Fall plans are in the works.

Endowment (Jordan Bequest update)

- A meeting was held in July with representatives from Washington county, the library, and the St. Croix Valley Foundation about moving the Jordan Bequest to the MCL Endowment. No decision has been reached, but all parties are open to continued discussion.

Strategic Plan – Laurie

- Postpone discussion until next meeting.

Other Business

- All are Welcome signs are now in the window, not outside.

**Next board meeting:
October 16, 2023
Adjourn time 8:29 p.m.**