

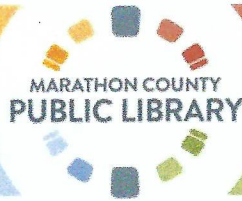
Marathon County Public Library

Resource Library Report

November 2023

This includes the *Agenda and Director's Report* for October 16, 2023, Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees meeting.

Also included, are the agenda/minutes from September 2023.



**COUNTY OF MARATHON
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN**

OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

A meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees,
Monday, October 16, 2023, at 12:00 noon
Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.

Persons wishing to attend the meeting by computer or phone may log or call into the meeting beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following website <https://meet.goto.com/429427797> or number **1 866 899 4679**. Access Code for dialing in 429-427-797.

When you enter the meeting, **PLEASE PUT YOUR COMPUTER AND PHONE ON MUTE!**

AGENDA

1. (12:00 p.m.) **Call to Order**
2. **Acknowledgement of Visitors**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
4. **Bills and Services Report**
5. (10 minutes) **Public Comments** *(Anyone addressing the Library Board is asked to do so in a respectful, professional, and courteous manner. The "Public Comments" portion of this meeting is offered as an opportunity for concerned citizens of Marathon County to be heard. The Board, however, is under no obligation to provide this forum. As such, any misuse could result in the removal of these privileges. Any person who wishes to address the Library Board during the "Public Comment" portion of meetings may only provide comment pertaining to an item on the agenda. He or she must sign in or e-mail their name, address, and the topic they wish to present to the Library Personnel Specialist no later than five minutes before the start of the meeting library-administration@mcpl.us)*
6. (15 minutes) **Reports Regarding Recent Meetings and Communications. For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only. No Action will be taken.**
 - A. President
 - B. Other Board Members
 - C. Library Director
 - D. Board Committees
 - E. Friends of the Library
 - F. MCPL Foundation
 - G. Wisconsin Valley Library Service
7. (10 minutes) **January 2024 Meeting Date Change – For Discussion and Possible Action**
8. (10 minutes) **2024 MCPL Holiday Closures – For Discussion and Possible Action**
9. **Announcements**
10. **Request for Future Agenda Items**
11. **Next Meeting Dates**
 - Monday 11/20/2023
 - Monday 12/18/2023
12. **Adjournment**

Signed: _____

Library Director or Designee

*All times are approximate and subject to change

*Any person planning to attend this meeting who need special accommodations in order to participate should call the Library Administration Office at 715-261-7213 or e-mail library-administration@mcpl.us one business day before the meeting.

EMAILED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and

EMAILED TO: Other Media Groups

EMAILED BY: H. Wilde

EMAILED DATE: October 12, 2023

EMAILED TIME: 9:05 a.m.

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE

BY: _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

Marathon County Public Library

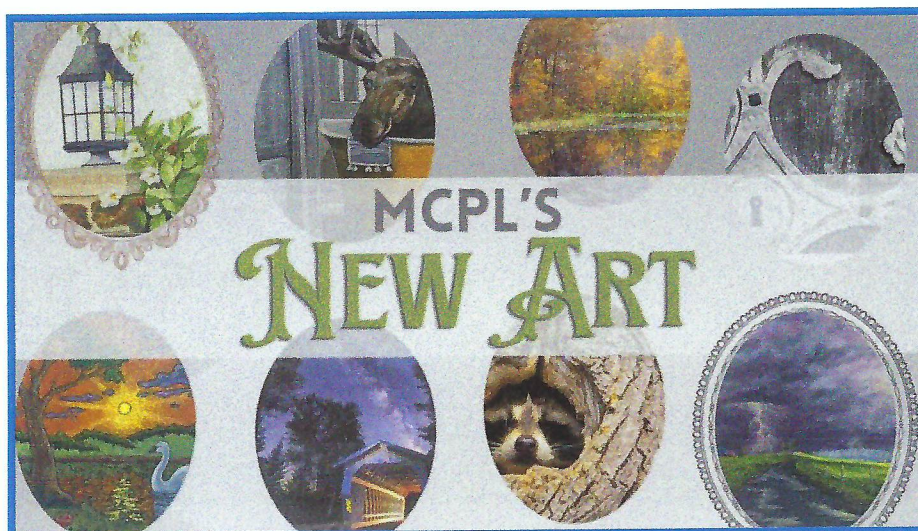
Director Report

October 2023

Highlights

Library Services

September was a month full of programming, planning, and new beginnings at MCPL. Robyn V. joined the Library Services Team on September 5. She will work on our Youth Services team and lead our programming and outreach to teens. Our teen D&D monthly events continued this month with an enthusiastic group of 9 teens who had a blast creating dice trays with library staff. A big highlight for our Adult Services team this month was the Central Wisconsin Book Festival, held the last week of September. The festival, which is in its 7th year, offered 20+ events across 3 cities and drew around 600 attendees. Our Event Coordinator, Chad, is pleased with this year's results. Preparations for the 8th annual Central Wisconsin Book Festival begin in November! We continued our collaboration with Adaptive Communities this month, offering two well-attended story times and crafts. Julie, Adult Services Librarian, began offering computer basics classes again. They have been very popular and upcoming classes are filling up fast! Julie will offer these classes at our branches in the near future. The Library Card Signup Month Drive, managed by Allycia, ran throughout the month of September and will finish up in October—MCPL welcomed many new patrons to the library all month long! Another highlight of the month was the addition of new artwork to our circulating art collection. Patrons will find many new pieces of art available for checkout throughout the library!



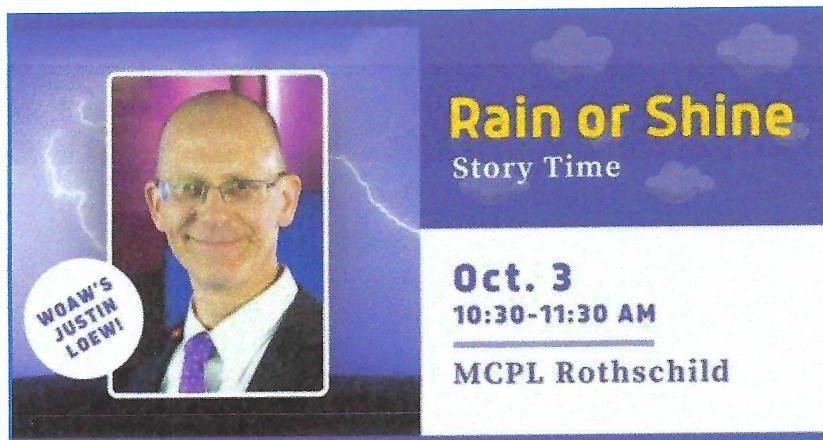
Our Youth Services team worked hard throughout this month to bring educational programs to our Wausau families. We hosted a back to school photo frame event on September 1, started our fall session of story times, and welcomed a school group into the library. DC Everest's Idea School brought about 50 high school students for a lesson on how to search the MCPL catalog and how to find information from reliable sources, followed by time to find books for a research project. The Youth team partnered with WAOW News Channel 9 for a variety of weather-related programs. Justin Loew read to preschool children and chatted with families about the weather! Brad Miller also did a presentation for school-aged kids. Loew and Miller will be at various MCPL locations in October. Taylor, Children's Librarian, attended a SEAL (Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries) workshop in Eau Claire that gave her great information and ideas. Read more about her experience in the Solar Eclipse Workshop highlight below!

All of our programming staff are preparing budgets for 2024. We are looking forward to offering another year full of educational and entertaining programming to our patrons! -Katelyn S,
Library Services Manager

Branches

Kitty is settling in as coordinator at our Athens branch and is excited to welcome community members and prepare for our upcoming move. She has met with Leah, Katelyn, and Stephanie to work on plans for the new building. Additionally, class visits have restarted with 11 groups of Athens students visiting in September. The first story time was also a hit with 24 participants!

A special Rain or Shine Story Time was held in Hatley, Marathon, and Mosinee with local meteorologist Justin Loew! Participants heard stories, did a weather experiment, and made a craft. A wonderful time was had by all! In Mosinee and Marathon, News Channel 9 meteorologist Brad Miller led an informative and fun presentation called "Tornadoes, Weather, and You" for elementary aged children. This program will be repeated in Hatley and Rothschild in October.



Pokémon Club was introduced in Edgar and Rothschild this month and was a big hit with participants! 20 people joined us to trade cards, socialize, play the game, and make Pokémon themed crafts. We hope the enthusiasm continues into future months. Mosinee will also be starting a Pokémon club soon.

Our Stratford location collaborated with the Stratford Area Historical Society for their *Neighbors Past and Present: The Wisconsin German Experience* exhibit. We curated a selection of books to complement their theme, and the Society placed one of their exhibit panels next to it. The display was very popular with patrons.

In Spencer, “Checking out Grocery Stores & Supermarkets of Marathon County” was presented by Gary Gisselman from the Marathon County Historical Society on September 26th. Gary showed photos of grocery stores in Stratford, Athens, and Spencer from the early 1900’s. He also focused on neighborhood grocery stores in Wausau and the A & P stores. This program was enjoyed by 24 adults.

The Rothschild branch hosted Buddy the therapy dog for our first monthly Read to A Therapy Dog session. The readers loved sharing stories with Buddy! Buddy will be back at the library on Thursday, October 5th.

2023 Federal Tax forms have been ordered for all locations. State tax forms will be ordered as soon as the state allows.

Our bi-monthly Branch Coordinator meeting was held on September 15th. We discussed library updates, technology updates, and our 2024 new programming framework.

Sarah, our Mosinee Branch Coordinator, was awarded a WVLS scholarship to attend the Wisconsin Library Association conference on October 24th-27th. The opportunity to attend is greatly appreciated!

Staff from many of our locations have been busy filling in at multiple locations to cover for staff shortages, vacations, illnesses, and medical leaves. We are working well as a team to make sure that we can help library patrons across the county.

—Laura W, Branch Team Lead

Book Display Highlight: Constitution Day

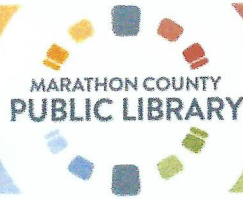
The Marathon County Public Library and the Wausau chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution collaborated on a book display for Constitution Day. Constitution Day is a federal holiday that celebrates the adoption of the US Constitution in 1787. It takes place on September 17 each year. Constitution Day kicks off Constitution Week, which lasts from September 17-23.

The display was placed in a high-traffic location on the first floor near the entryway. It included books for both adults and youth. Selections for adults included factual guides to help read and interpret the Constitution, opinion pieces, biographies on the people who shaped the document, as well as books on the Constitution’s impacts on historical moments. Books for kids included introductions to the Constitution and the people who created it. -Allycia S., Library Specialist

Library Services Statistics & Activities

News

- Maria, a member of the page team, began her practicum in Youth Services on September 5. Maria is earning her Master’s in Library and Information Studies at UW-Madison. Her 120-hour

**COUNTY OF MARATHON
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Monday, September 18, 2023, at 12:00 noon
Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.**


Persons wishing to attend the meeting by computer or phone may log or call into the **meeting beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following website <https://meet.goto.com/389605501> or number **1 866 899 4679**. Access Code for dialing in 389-605-501.**

When you enter the meeting, **PLEASE PUT YOUR COMPUTER AND PHONE ON MUTE!**

AGENDA

- 1. (12:00 p.m.) Call to Order**
- 2. Acknowledgement of Visitors**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
- 4. Bills and Services Report**
- 5. (10 minutes) Public Comments** *(Anyone addressing the Library Board is asked to do so in a respectful, professional, and courteous manner. The "Public Comments" portion of this meeting is offered as an opportunity for concerned citizens of Marathon County to be heard. The Board, however, is under no obligation to provide this forum. As such, any misuse could result in the removal of these privileges. Any person who wishes to address the Library Board during the "Public Comment" portion of meetings may only provide comment pertaining to an item on the agenda. He or she must sign in or e-mail their name, address, and the topic they wish to present to the Library Personnel Specialist no later than five minutes before the start of the meeting library-administration@mcpl.us)*
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 - B. Other Board Members**
 - C. Library Director**
 - D. Board Committees**
 - E. Friends of the Library**
 - F. MCPL Foundation**
 - G. Wisconsin Valley Library Service**
- 7. (15 minutes) 2024 Library Budget – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 8. (15 minutes) Library Service Highlight: Central Wisconsin Book Fest – For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only**
- 9. Announcements**
- 10. Request for Future Agenda Items**
- 11. Next Meeting Dates**
 - **Monday 10/16/2023**
 - **Monday 11/20/2023**
 - **Monday 12/18/2023**

12. Adjournment

Signed: 
Library Director or Designee

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EMAILED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and
EMAILED TO: Other Media Groups
EMIALED BY: H. Wilde
EMAILED DATE: September 14, 2023
EMAILED TIME: 8:35 a.m.

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE

BY: _____
DATE: _____
TIME: _____

Regular meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees, Monday, September 18, 2023.

Present: Kari Sweeney, Becky Buch, Gary Gisselman, LeeAnn Podruch, Reid Rayome, Andrea Sheridan, Leah Giordano

Absent: Brent Jacobson

Others: Alexander Johnson, Katelyn Sabelko, Heather Wilde, Stephanie Martell, David Hahn, Marla Sepnafski, Chad Dally and two additional visitors. Remote visitors: Jamie Matczak, and two additional remote visitors

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Kari Sweeney.
Kari Sweeney welcomed visitors to the meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY REID RAYOME; SECONDED BY BECKY BUCH TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 21, 2023 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LEEANN PODRUCH; SECONDED BY GARY GISSELMAN TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2023 BILLS AND SERVICES REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comments –None

President – None

Other Board Members – None

Director's Report – Presented in the Board packet and by Director Leah Giordano.

- The Strategic Planning Steering Committee had their kickoff meeting and are gathering community contact names for the one-on-one interview process and the community conversations. The director is reviewing the survey from WILS for release to community members in October. Board members are encouraged to promote the survey with library users and non-users.
- The WVLS director retreat was September 15th and was an opportunity to meet with other directors to discuss issues that all libraries face.

Board Committees – None

Friends of the Library –

- The Friends had their members only sale and made over \$370.
- The Friends of the Library purchased artwork for the library at the Art Festival using matching funds in addition to funds that they already had.
- T-shirts and totes are now available for sale at the main desk in Wausau.

MCPL Foundation – The Foundation approved a donation to Children’s Wisconsin, an organization that provides Play and Learn programming at the library.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service – The 2024 Plan and Budget for WVLS has been approved. The WVLS Board also approved scholarships for two MCPL staff members to attend the Wisconsin Library Association conference in October.

2024 Library Budget – To offset increased system membership fees and other expenses escalating due to inflation, the library has combined two team lead positions, cut a seasonal position, and reduced operational costs where possible. This resulted in an overall budget request of only 1% over last year’s request. The County Administrator proposed reducing this budget by \$61,000 to keep the library’s reserve funds near \$300,000.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ANDREA SHERIDAN; SECONDED BY REID RAYOME TO APPROVE THE BUDGET WITH THE \$61,000 REDUCTION PER THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Library Service Highlight: Central Wisconsin Book Fest- Presented by Chad Dally, Library Specialist.

- MCPL started the Central Wisconsin Book Fest in 2017. In 2021 McMillan Public Library in Wisconsin Rapids and Portage County Library joined the festival.
- Several sponsors provide venues and/or funding for authors and publicity.
- There are 23-24 events planned this year across the three communities and include locations like the Elks Club, Whitewater, Stewart Inn, and participating libraries.
- This year Firekeeper’s Daughter was the Community Read and related events will include a book discussion and a virtual event.
- Stevens Point and Wausau will each be hosting poetry walks during the month of September.
- This event requires year-round planning and work.

Announcements - None

Request for Future Agenda Items - None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BECKY BUCH; SECONDED BY LEEANN PODRUCH TO ADJOURN AT 12:28 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.


Library Director or Designee

Note: These minutes subject to approval at the next Library Board meeting scheduled for October 16, 2023.