



FOML Friends' Spring Workshop and Fred Ruffner Symposium

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017



Winners! Friends Helping Libraries Achieve Great Service...

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Library of Michigan and Friends Groups

- ▶ Recent history
- ▶ Personal history
- ▶ Staffing
- ▶ Emphasis on collaboration and partnerships
- ▶ Sharpening the focus

Common Goals

- ▶ Help make Michigan's public libraries strong and healthy
- ▶ Increase visibility
- ▶ Flaunt successes
- ▶ Look for increased funding opportunities
- ▶ Provide support for public library staff and programs

United for Libraries Membership

- ▶ Trustees, Foundations and Friends
- ▶ LM pays a statewide membership
- ▶ Access to webinars and online courses
- ▶ How to work with foundations
- ▶ How to engage volunteers
- ▶ Etc.

Changing Library World

- ▶ Role of friends groups
- ▶ Work **WITH** director and library board
- ▶ Change equals opportunity
- ▶ Uncertainty often creates the “space” for new leaders
- ▶ Where do you want to be?

Embrace Change!!!

What libraries are not looking for...

- ▶ More bosses
- ▶ More work
- ▶ More demands on their time
- ▶ Reasons for more meetings
- ▶ Additional demands on the budget
- ▶ Complaints

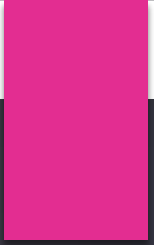
Opportunities for Friends

- ▶ Advocacy, Advocacy, Advocacy!!!
- ▶ “Sales” people
- ▶ Partners/collaborators
- ▶ It takes a village
- ▶ Networking
- ▶ Fundraising



Advocacy

Friends are in a unique position to talk to local, state and nationally elected officials



Help “sell” the library

Promote the library mission within the community

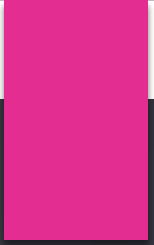
Volunteer



Partnerships

Liaison with the library board

Provide input and support implementation of strategic plans



Trusted member of the community
("village")

Help to build consensus



Network with groups not within the
library's circle

Join FOML



Fundraising

More than used book sellers...

Conduct fundraising that supports the library's mission and plans

Questions?