

Board Minutes: March 9th, 2021

Present: Dave Dewey, Ann Zieno, Nancy Hornung, Sue Ruestow, Pat Smith, Beth Paine

Absent: Mary Jane Plummer, Ken Howard

Meeting called to order at 4:31 p.m.

Minutes:

Motion by Dave Dewey to accept the minutes of the February 9th meeting. Second by Nancy Hornung; motion carried.

Correspondence:

None.

Personnel:

Charles Jalbert has resigned his Weekend Cleaner position. The position has been listed and James Wilson will continue to cover the position until the end of March.

Financial:

Check numbers 12194-12219 were reviewed.

Dave Dewey made a motion to accept the Board Claims in the amount of \$8,134.65; second from Pat Smith. Motion carried.

The 2021-2022 proposed Annual Budget has been submitted to the Sidney School District for publication in their Budget newsletter mailed to tax payers.

Building & Grounds:

The trees at the entrance of the Vartuli Garden have branches that were bending due to the heavy snows in December and January. Ray has tied them back up to the trees in an attempt to save them.

We have purchased the solar lights requested by the Sidney Center Improvement Group for the Sidney Center Branch Library sign. I purchased a box of four and the other two will be used for the sign at the Masonville Branch Library.

Unfinished Business:

We received the documents for the Masonville Branch Library building and property transfer, but the library's name was entered incorrectly as The Sidney Memorial Public Library Foundation, Inc. Beth returned the documents to Coughlin & Gerhart with specific directions as to the correct name to be entered.

DCMO BOCES was contacted again regarding further information as to why the library does not qualify for the fuel consortium. Beth was told that we don't qualify because the school district does not handle all of our accounting and record keeping, so we are considered a separate entity.

New Business:

None.

Friends of the Libraries:

The Friends of the Libraries met on March 3rd for their official Annual Meeting. They approved funding for the Summer Reading Program performers in the amount of \$1400, and the Antiques Roadshow presentation by Michael Ivankovich in May for \$350. They are discussing the possibility of having a book sale during the summer.

Other:

Patron statistics remain steady for all three libraries.

Beth attended the Virtual Library Advocacy Day with other Directors from Four County Library System on February 26th. They met with Senator Oberacker and Assemblyman Angelino, and both representatives were impressed with how public libraries have adjusted to meet the needs of their patrons throughout the pandemic.

In-person art classes with Joyce Neal continue to be popular.

Summer Reading Program planning is under way with Sarah Fredette and Cassandra Hunter. They have the performers booked and that is being funded by the Friends of the Libraries.

The library has started scheduling non-staff Zoom presenters, including Rick Bunting's One Swamp, Many Stories on March 18th; the Alzheimer's Association 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's on March 25th; and Anna Banks of SFCU is planning a financial literacy series beginning on April 8th.

Sarah Fredette and Beth continue to look at ways to improve the website. Beth has asked all staff for their input on making the site more user friendly and inviting. There have been quite a few updates on the Board of Trustees page, including adding our annual budget, charter documents, and the Board of Trustees Monthly Minutes.

Steve Bachman from Four County Library System informed the Directors that the Hoopla (the digital content app) contract was coming up and if anyone wanted to join, we would need to let him know by April.

The Governor has proposed further cuts to library funding for the 2021-2022 state budget. Construction aid would be cut from \$20 million to \$14 million and Library Aid would be cut from \$94.1 million to \$87 million.

Mary Jane Plummer's term will be ending June 30th, 2021 anyone wishing to run for her seat on the Board will need to get the petition from the Sidney School District.

Motion to adjourn at 5:11 pm by Dave Dewey; second by Pat Smith. Motion carried.