

Petoskey District Library

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes February 22, 2024

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by President Kim Block

Present: Kim Block, Ann Ingles, Mike Atchison, Amy Janssens, Quintin Janssens, Trevor Nelson, and Val Meyerson (Library Director). Quorum requirements met.

Agenda President Block added Student Trustee Update to Unfinished Business. Approved by consensus.

Minutes from the January meeting: approved by consensus.

Approval of January bills: approved by consensus.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Nelson referred the board to the reports in the packet.

Friends of the Library report: Merrie Lee Rebillot presented on behalf of the Friends.

- The "Cabin Fever" book sale will be held Mar 3 - 9. This year they are adding more puzzles as well as vintage books.

Director's report: Val referred the board to her written report, which was provided in advance of the meeting, and highlighted the following:

- Val introduced the board to Dana Frank, who has taken over the GRT program and will also work in the Children's department.
- March meeting will be held in the classroom, rather than the Carnegie Bldg.
- Susie Finkbeiner, MI notable author, will be presenting in June.
- We did not receive the Historic grant for Carnegie repairs, as hoped.
- Construction update: about \$20k left of work to do in spring
- In March Val will be presenting the annual report to the townships. She will also be asking them to put the library funding proposal on their November ballots.
- Val called the board's attention to the OMA article in the board packet.
- Small claims court case - The patron has now paid us back in full so Val did not have to go to court today.
- Human library - Val explained this new program and answered the board's questions.
- Eclipse event on April 8. The library will be handing out viewing glasses starting April 1st.
- Amy asked about Family Literacy night. Val explained that attendance was way down and the staff will revisit this.
- Ann mentioned that the front door is not closing properly. Val will have it looked at and fixed.
- Kim thanked Val for including the OMA article in the packet and asked how the OMA applies to group email threads. Val explained that group emails are OK as long as they are not being used to deliberate toward a board decision.

Board Comments:

- Ann shared some interesting history on the Carnegie building and some of the challenges faced during initial construction. There is an upcoming presentation regarding the history of the Carnegie.
- Amy was pleased to see such a variety of people in the building as she entered and made her way downstairs.

Unfinished Business:

- Student Trustee update:
 - Kim asked Quintin about the informational/recruiting video being shown at PHS and also about whether any progress has been made in finding our next candidate.
 - Quintin updated Kim and explained where and when the video is being presented.
 - Amy saw that it was included in the weekly PHS newsletter.

New Business:

- **New Year's Eve as a paid holiday:** Val proposed that the library be closed on Dec 31 so that the NYE event in the evening can be adequately staffed. Val noted that the City offices are also closed on Dec 31.
 - Mike moved to approve the Dec 31 closure. Trevor seconded. No discussion. Vote taken. Motion passed unanimously.
- **New Policy on Programming selection:** Val explained.
 - Kim asked about the League of Women Voters event. Val explained that this is a non-partisan group and that we may partner with them to sponsor an event.
 - Kim asked about the Interfaith event. Val explained that this is a Friends program, not a Library program.
 - Amy expressed her approval of the program survey questions: Did you attend? Did you stay to the end?
 - Ann made motion to approve. Trevor seconded. Vote taken. Passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

- Joe Hoffman asked about the Planned Parenthood program in March. Val explained that the library is not partnering with them.
 - Joe asked who was paying for the space. Val responded that she will check and get back to Joe.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:38 pm by Kim Block

Submitted by Mike Atchison, Secretary