

Petoskey District Library

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes November 22, 2022

Call to order at 5:00 by President Ann Ingles

Present: Kim Block, Ann Ingles, Mike Atchison, Amy Janssens, Isabel Dunn, and Val Meyerson (Library Director).

Trevor Nelson was absent. (Quorum requirements met)

Agenda Approved by consensus

Minutes Approved by consensus

Bills Approved: Amy inquired about the Niche Academy bill. Val explained it was the training module program for the public and the staff.

Treasurer's Report: Amy reported the library is on target for its financial goals.

Friends of the Petoskey Library (Sue Moffett):

- The Friends are seeking more members and volunteers.
- Night at the Library fundraiser was a success earning over \$19,000.

Director's Report (Val Meyerson):

- The Kellogg horse is at a storage facility near Fletch's after Hans Kellogg came to get it. Val had a good visit with him and is interested in recording an oral history with him and his friends.
- The food drive for Manna is in full swing and accepting donations.
- Val re-signed the Memorandum of Understanding; Sheltering and Mass Care facilities with the Public Schools of Petoskey.
- Val expressed gratitude for Nisa's report on the new ideas she will bring to the library from the national Young Adult Library Services Association conference. Her trip was funded by a continuing education grant from the MLA.

Board Members' Comments:

- Amy thanked Val for reaching out to the Kellogg family.

New Business:

- 2023 Meeting Dates: Amy requested the March 2023 meeting date be changed to March 16 due to spring break. The calendar was approved by consensus.
- 2023 Closure Dates: The dates were approved by consensus.

Public Comments:

- Mary Jean Meyerson (Petoskey)- supports the use of pronouns on name tags
- Thom Dye (Petoskey)- appreciates how the library accommodates others like him and welcomes all, supports pronouns
- Neveah Wells (Boyne Falls)- library is an accepting and safe place
- Luna (Bear Creek)- library is an accepting and safe place

- Stacy Shlueter (Petoskey)- people should be treated fairly and all welcomed, pronouns say self is more important than God and it is offensive, not a place for gender to be explored and against pronouns on name tags.
- Jill Porter Marsh- likes the library's support of book clubs
- Matt Wertman (Resort)- library promoting gender ideology and should be neutral
- Nikki (Petoskey)- thanked teen speakers and as a mother of transgender child supports pronouns
- Lazurus Mills (Harbor Springs) - a transgender teen who sees pronouns as a welcome sign
- Molly (Petoskey)- spoke to higher suicide rate in LGBTQ youth
- Sarah Baughman- supports pronouns
- Elizabeth Burrows- learns about others at the library
- Kieran Wieber (Petoskey)- supports expressing oneself at work
- Susan (Cheboygan)- all should wear nametags, especially transgender people to help others out
- Bill Wilson (Bear Creek)- supports pronouns and sees need for safe spaces
- Rebeca Otto (Littlefield)- LGBTQ need acceptance
- Danielle Shupe (Petoskey)- name tags with pronouns help people connect
- Jason (Resort)- wants to be caring, accepting, and respectful while not agreeing with others' choices
- Kate (Bear Creek)- appreciate all the opinions expressed and appreciates the library allows people to explore and have discussions

Board Comments:

- Kim thanked all for the civil discourse and attending

Adjournment: Ann adjourned the meeting at 6:02.



Submitted by Kim Block, Secretary