

Minutes of the David A. Howe Library

Board of Trustees Meeting

March 12, 2024

Trustees Present: Nic Gunning, Director, Donald Comstock, President, Nora Burdick, Madeleine Gasdik, Tom Reuning, Nancy Reuning, Treasurer, Emily Peavey, Vice-President, Tim Colligan via Zoom, Anne Sobeck, Secretary

Trustees Absent: Kris Green

Call to Order: President Comstock called the March 12, 2024 Finance Committee meeting to order at 7:32am. The DAHL Annual Audit was presented by Ed Bysiek. President Comstock called our regular meeting to order at 7:50am.

Discussion and Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the February 2024 minutes was made by President Comstock and seconded by Trustee Burdick. The motion carried. (7,0)

Director's Report:

A. Statistics

-Circulation

Director Gunning noted that checkouts and digital material usage were up, computer usage was significantly down from last February.

B. Programs

Director Gunning noted that despite the "program slow-down" months the foot traffic in the library has remained steady.

B. News from the Library

-February 7th was Library Advocacy Day

-March 23rd is the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The library is partnering with the Wlsv Rotary Club and the YMCA on this event.

-The DAHL partnered with the Salvation Army to provide lunches to children during the February break from school. Approximately 100 meals were given out over those four days.

-Director Gunning attended the grand opening of the First Steps Family Resource Center.

-The first Winter Reading Program was a success---over 70 sign-ups of adults and children.

C. Department Reports

Youth: Ally participated in the African American Read-In of the Southern Tier. Kate continues her outreach storytimes with the YMCA, Trinity, Headstart and Starbridge. The Little Learners storytime has been discontinued due to lack of participation. Auditorium and Exhibits: Amber Schuson and Amanda Aldrich had a successful

art show. Kate E. and local artist, Jessica Borchert, held an open studio time in the Gallery on February 26th which was well received and another is being planned.

Kate E. also met with the Director of the Allegany County Area Foundation to discuss volunteering on its grant committee and/or board.

Technology: Gary has successfully completed the updates to the library server, and is now looking to update staff computers. Cori continues to increase the library's social media reach.

Building and Grounds: There was another plumbing issue on the lower level of the library, drains were snaked and problem was resolved. A toilet was leaking on the upper level and the problem was resolved. Repair work for damage has begun. A new exterior light has been installed outside of the auditorium entrance.

D. Annual Report

-The 2023 Annual Report for Public Libraries was submitted.

E. Grants and Funding

-Director Gunning has submitted the closing paperwork for the auditorium patio grant.

-Director Gunning and Kate M. worked on a Moogan Family Foundation grant requesting funds for a baby changing table and feminine products.t

-The Community Arts Grant from the Arts Council of Wyoming County was funded at 80% and will fund our spring concert series in full and part of the fall concert series. Kate E. received an ACWC Individual Artist Grant.

-Director Gunning's grant application was approved by the Kelsey Naylor Family Foundation. It will be used to replace the library fire monitoring system.

Committee Reports: The Finance Committee reported on the Audit.

Friend's Report: A "Dinner for Eight" is planned for April.

Old Business: There is an open position for bookkeeping.

New Business: Trustee Green, Trustee Gasdik, Trustee N. Reuning and Trustee T. Reuning have all agreed to another 5 year term. A motion to approve was made by Trustee Comstock and seconded by Trustee N. Burdick. The motion carried. (6,0)

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05am was made by President Comstock and seconded by Trustee E. Peavey. The motion carried. (6,0)

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Sobeck

Secretary