

Minutes of the Fairbury Public Library Board

Wednesday April 7, 2021

7:00 pm

601 7th Street, Fairbury, NE 68352

The regular meeting of the Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by president, Kristin Vaughn. Eric Borch was present in person. Stan Smith, LeAnn Krause and Warner Krumme were present via conference call. Our director Debbie Aden was also present.

Notice of this meeting was posted in advance in the Fairbury Journal News. The Open Meetings Act was posted in the room as required by law.

There were no comments from the public.

The March 3rd minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Stan that the minutes be approved as written. Warner seconded. Votes were as follows: LeAnn, yes; Warner, yes; Stan, yes; Kristin, yes; and Eric, yes. Motion carried.

The Director's Report:

Building:

-No building issues.

Technology:

-No issues

City Business:

-City approved raising the wages of the two newest part time employees (Jonni Hemphill and Mariel Ramos) from \$9.00 to \$9.25/hour to put them at the same wage as the temporary part time workers hired for the summer. Jess was already making \$9.25/hr.

Library Events and Programming:

-Summer reading programs include a magic show and Henry Doorly Zoo animal presentation at the Bonham a parrot program here at the library. I am also trying to see if Nebraska Game and Parks will do an animal presentation here at the library.

-Author Jeff Barnes has tentatively been scheduled to do a presentation of his newest book, *Cut in Stone, cast in bronze: Nebraska's historical markers and monuments, 1854-1967*, through Humanities Nebraska in August.

Workshop Updates:

-Zoom CASTL meeting. Presenter about the new 211 help line, and Scott talked about Open Meeting Rules.

Director Activities:

-We received several donations last month. \$50 from an Oregon estate, \$100 from the Rotary Club, and \$2,500 from the 23 Building Foundation.

-I want to use the \$2,500 to get the outside of the Carnegie painted. I spoke with someone from the State of Nebraska EPA department and my understanding is that since we are a public building, zero-bedroom dwelling, even if lead paint is present, it is not subject the Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) rule and we do not have to hire an EPA certified firm to do the work. That being said, it is still recommended, and I have made a couple of calls, but no takers so far. I have a bid from Siebe's from a couple of years ago, and may have to hire him. The \$2,500 will not cover the full amount. But there is money in the City Capital Improvement budget, and the Foundation still has building funds.

-The Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation is offering grants for up to \$5,000 to assist local efforts on the part of local historical societies, museums, libraries, etc. Building maintenance repairs and improvements is one category we can apply for. I am going to apply for the grant to replace the heater in the Carnegie side and convert it back to gas. I have received estimates from Pollman's and Petersons to send in with the grant. Our electric bill for last month was over \$1,700, and that was keeping the thermostat turned down and still generally being cold in the building. Even if we got the full amount of the grant, it would not cover the entire cost, and again, I would go back to the City Capital Improvement fund and the Foundation to make up the difference. If I am unsuccessful in getting the grant, we may still need to talk about replacing the furnace.

-Thrasher was out to re-evaluate the stabilizing project on the southeast corner of the Carnegie and get us an updated proposal. He has offered to come down for our next Board meeting and explain the process if we are interested. I am going to ask the Foundation at their May meeting if they would agree to putting up the down payment (20%) and we can move ahead with setting a date.

-I have not yet contacted any architects about potential remodeling.

-Update on the *Newspaper Archives* Project: After some clean-up work on my part on the catalog records (our in-house records were not in a uniform sequence) it appears all of the papers are now on-line. They are not, however, all searchable yet. None of the microfilm has been returned yet, either. I have been in contact with their representative regarding these two issues.

Bills in the amount of \$24,834.58 were reviewed. A motion was made by Eric that the bills be approved and paid as written. LeAnn seconded. Votes were as follows: LeAnn, yes; Warner, yes; Stan, yes; Kristin, yes; and Eric, yes. Motion carried.

There was no old business.

New business is an in-person Seward Apollo workgroup. Debbie is very excited to have an in-person meeting! The CASTL meeting for the month will still be via Zoom.

There was no further business. The next regular meeting will be held May 5, 2021.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

LeAnn Krause

