Minutes of the Fairbury Public Library Board

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

7:00 pm

601 7th Street, Fairbury, NE 68352

1.The regular meeting of the Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by president, Kristin Vaughn. 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.

2. In addition to the president, Kristin Vaughn, members present were LeAnn Krause, and Stan Smith, Sarah Moorman, and Warner Krumme via phone. Our director Debbie Aden was also present.

3.There were no comments from the public.

4.The July 3rd minutes were reviewed. Warner made a motion to approve the minutes. Stan seconded. Votes were as follows: LeAnn, yes; Stan, yes; Warner, yes. Kristin and Sarah, yes. Motion carried.

5.The Director's Report:

Building:
-Came in the morning of Monday, July 15th to discover a completely flooded basement from a burst hose, probably sometime Sunday, due to the amount of water. I was able to turn it off as soon as it was discovered. Contacted the city offices and Erin had city water employees come over. They confirmed that the one drain in the basement was working. It took about 4 hours and a lot of pushing water to that room to drain the standing water. The next day, library staff cleaned up and hauled out damaged items. Nothing of value was destroyed as most things were in plastic tubs or off the floor. However, the furnace unit had to be repaired and we were without A/C most of the week. After we cleaned up, Mike Holes came out with fans and dehumidifiers. He also applied a mold abatement.
City business:
-Submitted 2024-2025 budget request to the city.
Library events and programming:
-85 kids and 62 adults signed up for the summer reading program
-Orphan Train program coming September 16.
Director activities and other happenings:
-Busy with summer reading promotion and activities. Library visits, computer use, and material circulation remained steady.
-After a group of about a half dozen kids were observed lighting fire crackers on the Carnegie porch, down the stairs, and on top of the book drops, two more cameras were installed outside. One directed at the stairs coming up to the south door and one directed at the public benches on the west side of the building by the handicap ramp and raised flower bed.
-Work has begun on the library's 5-year re-accreditation and *Community Response Plan* update. An accreditation committee was formed and an electronic survey created to ask for public input on library services, major needs in the community, and how we can best respond to those needs. The survey was sent to library patrons, city employees, city council, and through the Chamber. A link was also provided on Facebook and on our Website. We have received 60 responses so far. The survey will be open until August 12th.

6.Bills in the amount of $8,540.72 were reviewed. A motion was made by LeAnn that the bills be approved and paid as written. Stan seconded. Votes were as follows: LeAnn, yes; Stan, yes; Warner, yes; Kristin, yes; and Sarah, yes. Motion carried.

7. Old Business: Accreditation. Debbie put out a survey and has had around 60 responses. This information will be included to help the library gain points toward accreditation. The committee will meet one more time to go over the information received.

8. New Business: Erin at the city requested Debbie to come up with a proposed budget for 2024-25. She has turned it in to the city. She moved some money around in different lines, without asking the city for an increase in her overall budget. Debbie plans to attend the city budget meeting, and invited the board members to attend and/or provide feedback.

Debbie told the board that a new liaison was needed between the Foundation and the Board. LeAnn volunteered to fill this position since Eric Borch is gone. Kristen asked each of the board officers if they would agree to retain their current position on the board and each agreed. A motion was made by Stan for all to retain their current positions. LeAnn seconded. Votes were as follows: LeAnn, yes; Stan, yes; Warner, yes; Kristin, yes; and Sarah, yes. Motion carried.

The annual director evaluation was completed by the board. Debbie more than meets and exceeds in each of the different classifications. An evaluation was completed based on the city's form, and a separate evaluation was completed on the usual director's evaluation that pertains more to her day-to-day activities and duties.

CASTL will be held August 23rd, in Crete, Debbie plans to attend in person.

NLA Conference is October 9-11. This will be in Hastings, and Debbie plans to attend.

9. There was no further business. The next regular meeting will be held on September 4th, 2024.

10. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

LeAnn Krause