Hinckley Public Library District

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2022

Due to Governor Pritzker’s COVID-19 disaster proclamation still being in effect and the high rates of infection in the community, board president Karen Yaggie determined that it was not practical or prudent to hold a fully in-person board meeting.

At 7:01pm, president Karen Yaggie called the meeting to order. Members present in the room: Karen Yaggie, Arlen Carls, Carol Kohler, Kari McMurtrie, Tom Lang, and Fran Kriesch. Member attending virtually: Amie Carey.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on February 14, 2022 were approved as presented.

Comments from the Public

There were no public comments.

Secretary’s Report

The office of the Secretary of State sent an annual reminder that the State Librarian must be informed of any board changes or vacancies within 60 days.

Treasurer’s Report

The majority of the ARPA grant money was received, with the final amount pending another grant report. The annual replacement tax was received from the township.

Approval and Payment of Bills

A motion to approve the treasurer’s report and pay all bills was made by Carol and seconded by Amie. This passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Director’s Report-Rylie Roubal

Rylie reported that the library has received more than $33,000 in private donations toward the building fund, with memorials for Joyce Ann Nash at $1,000 and memorials for Mark Stein at $400 so far.

Rylie will be disposing of paperwork according to the Local Records Act later this month.

12 attendees for the grant-funded Dungeons & Dragons all-day event had a great time and asked to do another event in the future. The second Teen Takeover had 38 attendees. Story time attendance is picking up since the mask mandate was lifted; 50 people attended in February. Rylie will host a second Try It Club class for the resin beach art because the first class had a long waiting list. The theme for the Summer Reading Program will be “Read Beyond the Beaten Path” with activities focusing on nature.

Hinckley patrons checked out 143 items (up from 141) in Overdrive.

The Friends of the Library have $2,131.62. They had income of $8.40 from book sales since last meeting. They will have a meeting this week to discuss fundraising ideas.

There was no youth services report as Lisa Carter resigned her position.

Library statistics showed a strange drop in checkouts for the month, while attendance increased.

Unfinished Business

The application for the Live & Learn grant was denied. While the library could match the $125,000 of the grant, it could not show that it had the remaining project funds available to use upon receipt of the grant. Additionally, state funds cannot be used to match state funds, so the DCEO Main Streets grant could not be used alongside the Live & Learn. Andy Dogan said there were a lot of accessibility and mini grant applications this year, so there might not be funding for the construction grants anyway.

Andy Dogan with Williams Architects presented an updated floor plan for 142 W Lincoln with some 3D views of the interior. Rylie suggested thinking about making the staff restroom a server room or storage. All HVAC will need to go on the roof to save space inside. Karen suggested labeling the meeting room “program room” and showing a layout with tables instead of rows of chairs. Andy will send an example of a layout with a description for the room’s uses.

There were no new updates to the exterior examples.

New Business

Having previously tabled the community engagement piece of the contract from Williams Architects, the board asked Andy to describe what the service would entail. There would be two public events with a series of boards showing aspects of the building project. Community members would be able to focus on the areas that interested them and ask questions one-on-one with the architects and library board. The plan could be developed at the April board meeting and the first presentation could coincide with the launch of Summer Reading. The board asked if it would be better to have funding first before starting on community engagement, but Andy said that it can be helpful to show that the library is in the planning stages and hasn’t figured out everything before approaching the community for input. The board also liked the idea of having a second presentation at the community ice cream social to engage different members of the public than those who would be at the summer registration event. They also suggested launching a donation campaign in conjunction with the community engagement events, including a planned donor acknowledgement wall. Carol made a motion to approve the addition to the Williams Architects contract in the amount of $1,950 for community engagement. Fran seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously on a roll call vote.

Other Business

The board meeting minute-taker resigned, so the board brainstormed ideas for a new hire.

Lisa Carter resigned suddenly. Carol Kohler offered to run story times until a replacement could be hired.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22.