

August 6, 2024 Holdrege Area Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

The regularly scheduled board meeting of the Holdrege Area Public Library was called to order in the library conference room at 4:00pm. The meeting was conducted in compliance with the Nebraska Public/Open Meetings Act posted on the bulletin board in the conference room.

Members present were Cassie Ehrenberg, Rosanna Meyer, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, Maureen Epping, and interim director Diana Urbom.

Jennifer Sand arrived at 4:25pm. Absent was Sue Christensen.

Minutes: The minutes from the July 9, 2024 board meeting printed in the agenda were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rosanna Meyer and seconded by Annette Sindt. The minutes were approved with affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Rosanna Meyer, Annette Sindt, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, and Maureen Epping. New members Lori Larson and Anna Sertich abstained.

Public forum: John Abrahamson and Cathy Bodenheimer were present and inquired about the status of the potential new library as well as potential sites.

Financial report: The financial report, printed in the meeting agenda, was reviewed. It was moved by Annette Sindt and seconded by Bill Yochum to approve the financial report. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Rosanna Meyer, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, and Maureen Epping.

Approval of bills: The monthly bills, listed in the expenses and vendor detail and balance sheets were reviewed and approved following a motion to approve made by Annette Sindt and seconded by Rosanna Meyer. The motion passed with affirmative votes from all members present: Cassie Ehrenberg, Rosanna Meyer, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, and Maureen Epping.

New business: New board members Lori Larson (city) and Anna Sertich (county) were introduced and welcomed. The by-laws will be sent out to each board member to review and make changes and will be discussed at the next board meeting. The primary website URL is now working.

Discussion was held about the October 17, 2024 library program funding. A motion was made by Lori Larson to support the Raptor Program on October 17, 2024 at the Ag Center up to \$1000 if approved by the Phelps County Ag Society Board using money from the PCCF Library Fund. It was seconded by Julie Johnson. Motion carried by affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Rosanna Meyer, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, Jennifer Sand, and Maureen Epping.

Discussion was also held about the October 17, 2024 library program set up. A motion was made by Lori Larson and seconded by Julie Johnson to close the library as early as needed on October 17, 2024 to set up for the program at the Ag Building. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Rosanna Meyer, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, Jennifer Sand, and Maureen Epping.

The NLA Conference that library staff will be attending October 10 was discussed. A motion was made by Anna Sertich and seconded by Jennifer Sand to close the library October 10, 2024 so that staff can attend the library conference in Kearney. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Cassie Ehrenberg, Rosanna Meyer, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, Lori Larson, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, Jennifer Sand, and Maureen Epping.

Old business: The Iron Horse Arts District Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was discussed and a motion was made by Julie Johnson to have Sierra Burrows or a library delegate continue to be involved with the Iron Horse Arts District for 5 hours or less per month paid by the library not to exceed above or beyond her current hours per pay period. It was seconded by Annette Sindt. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Rosanna Meyer, Anna Sertich, Annette Sindt, Bill Yochum, Julie Johnson, Jennifer Sand, and Maureen Epping. Cassie Ehrenberg and Lori Larson abstained due to a conflict of interest.

The library board of trustees is still accepting applications for the director of the library position which has been posted since June 2024 and it was decided to end applications on September 1, 2024.

The new building initiative update will be discussed at the next board meeting.

The "smell" is still present in the library and we are currently awaiting the city to take action on a few potential causes for the smell.

The Friends of the Library (FOL) storage policy will be reviewed with the president of the FOL and discussed at the next meeting.

Interim director report:

1. A patron is using the staff entrance so it was suggested by the board to label that entrance as "Staff only".
2. The library staff will be attending the NLA Conference in Kearney October 10, 2024.
3. The library's annual audit will take place on August 19, 2024.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rosanna Meyer and seconded by Jennifer Sand. Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Epping, secretary