

## September 6, 2018 Valley Public Library Board of Trustees Minutes

**Call to Order:** President Cole Buffington called the September 6, 2018 Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call:** Trustees answering roll call: Bernie Smith, Cole Buffington, Joan Swahn, Kyle Held, Teresa Mejstrik. Library Director Garren Hochstetler was in attendance.

**Proof of Posting / Open Meetings Act Poster:** The meeting was held in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Law, with meeting notice posted in the post office, City Hall, and the library bulletin board. Continuously updated copies of the agenda were maintained on the library's bulletin board and the library's website. President Cole Buffington pointed out the Open Meetings Act poster on the wall of the meeting room.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve by B. Smith, second by K. Held. Yeas: Smith, Swahn, Held, Buffington, Mejstrik. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0. There were no consent agenda items which required approval.

**Recognition of Visitors/Correspondence:** Gerri Nordell, Secretary of Friends of the Library was recognized. Also in attendance were Jim Musson and Teresa Samson – Library Board candidates.

**Public Comment:** President C. Buffington asked for public comment. None was given.

**Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by K. Held, second by T. Mejstrik. Yeas: Smith, Held, Buffington, Mejstrik and Swahn. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

### REPORTS

**Board President:** No official report.

**Library Director:** G. Hochstetler handed out a written document of the Librarian's Report which he went over verbally and answered questions from the Board. He announced that budget had been approved by the City, including requests for additional funds for books and special programs. A presentation was also made by Sydney Groh regarding the Summer Reading Program. Both electronic documents are attached.

**Friends of the Library:** Gerri Nordell read the minutes from the last Friends meeting. An electronic copy is attached.

**Foundation:** No representatives were present.

### Old Business

None

## **New Business**

Library Director, Garren Hochstetler had advised the Library Board in an email dated August 22, 2018 that he had accepted a position focused on youth services with a Lincoln Library. His pending open position was then posted in various publications that presented four qualified candidates. A hiring committee consisting of Bernie Smith, Teresa Mejstrik, and Garren Hochstetler conducted interviews and selected two of the best qualified. The committee presented their findings to the Board and Teresa Mejstrik made the following motion: The committee will offer the Library Director position to Samantha "Sami" Voshell at an salary of \$17.00 / hour (negotiable to \$18.00). Additionally, empower the committee to offer the position to the second candidate should the first candidate decline. Motion was seconded by Kyle Held. Yeas: Smith, Held, Buffington, Mejstrik, and Swahn. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Current policy requires parental permission each time a minor wants to check out a movie. Librarian Garren asked for a revision to the policy that would allow parents a one-time permission approval much like the current computer policy. The permission would be noted on the account, and would stay in place until the parent requested it be removed. Kyle Held made the motion that the policy should be revised to allow guardians a one-time approval for minors to check out movies that could be modified at the parent's request. Teresa Mejstrik seconded the motion. Yeas: Smith, Held, Buffington, Mejstrik, and Swahn. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Joan Swahn's four year Board position is up the month of September and she is not requesting an extension of her term. With that in mind, Director Garren had posted the opening. Two candidates emerged and attended the meeting – Jim Musson and Teresa Samson. Board Member Bernie Smith stated that she would be moving out of the city limits, and would also soon be submitting her resignation. With two open positions, Teresa Mejstrik made the motion to nominate both candidates to the Board. Cole Buffington seconded the motion. Yeas: Smith, Held, Buffington, Mejstrik, and Swahn. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0. The City Council will be need to approve the nominations. Joan and Bernie are to submit their official resignations.

Library Director Garren requested consideration by the Board to allow the Director permission to open the library for special events outside of regular open hours. There are occasions when staying open later, or opening early would be beneficial, but currently requires Board approval. Much discussion ensued with varying opinions. Cole Buffington made the motion to Table the request for discussion with the new Director. Kyle Held seconded the motion. Yeas: Smith, Held, Buffington, Mejstrik, and Swahn. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Comments and Announcements by Board Members:**

Cole commended Garren on the good job he did preparing the budget for the City Council.

Bernie Smith commented that Garren had been a joy to work with. The Board agreed and joined in voicing their appreciation of his contributions. He will be greatly missed.

**Meeting Adjournment** was announced by President Cole Buffington at 7:30 p.m. Next meeting will be Thursday, November 8th at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Swahn, Secretary