

Ashland Public Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
October 21, 2015
Draft of Minutes

Notice is hereby given that the regular meeting of the Ashland Public Library Board of Trustees was held at the Ashland Public Library, 1324 Silver Street, Ashland, NE on Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at 6:00 PM. This meeting was open to the public, and the public was encouraged to attend. An agenda for the meeting was available for public inspection at the library.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by Chris Gossin, President.

Members present:

Chris Gossin, President
Michelle Powell, Vice President
Leslie Gerdes, Secretary
Heather St.Clair, Library Director
Nicole Chudomelka, Trustee
Tom Walsh, Trustee

Members absent: none

Chris noted the Open Meetings Act posted on the west wall of the community meeting room.

Public Comments: none

Agenda:

Nicole made a motion to approve the agenda. Tom seconded the motion, all present voted in favor and the motion passed.

Minutes:

Tom made a motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting and Chris seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion carried.

Financial Report:

The financial report covered August and September and brings the fiscal year to a close as of October 1. Heather said that the new budget should take care of any areas that had a negative balance. Tom made a motion for the board to accept the financial report. Leslie seconded the motion, and all members voted to accept the motion, so it passed.

Librarian's Report

Heather reported on the attendance for various programs held at the library.

New Business

a. SELS Scott Childers

Scott Childers from the South East Library System talked to the library board and library foundation members about their respective roles and responsibilities. He used a handout that defined and clarified these roles. He said typically the board members are nominated by the city and are city representatives, whereas, the foundation represents the public and should recruit its own new members. It is important for the foundation to maintain a liaison to the board, however. Scott suggested having board members take turns serving and rotating every year. Also the liaison should be a non-voting member. The bigger the project, the more discussions there should be between entities, which may include occasional joint meetings.

Another talking point was about foundations vs friends. The terms can be synonymous, but not necessarily. If they are acting as different organizations, foundations usually handle larger amounts of money which come to them through donations and planned giving. Friends are usually more hands on with specific projects. Members may volunteer to help with library events and may raise smaller amounts of money through things like book sales. Foundations may advertise their non-profit status and encourage people to support them with donations. Contributions may be earmarked for specific things by the donor, or more preferably allow the foundation to determine how the funds will be used to support the library. It is important for foundations to take a close look at banks and different options for managing their funds.

Scott's information was very helpful and will allow the foundation and library board to work together, yet thrive in their own capacities.

b. Downtown Christmas

A couple Chamber members have requested to use the ACRC for the Downtown Christmas celebration. The board asked to table the issue until more specific information is obtained.

c. Foundation Agenda

No new business. Clay Anderson has donated numerous photos of the earth that he took from outer space to be displayed at the library. They have selected the images they would like to use, but are waiting for them to be released by NASA. They are also looking at framing options at this time.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM by Chris.

The next meeting date will be a regular meeting on November 18th at 6:00 PM, in the small meeting room of the ACRC.

Minutes submitted by Leslie Gerdes