

GARNETT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 16th, 2021

5:30 PM

Present: Linda Huettenmueller, Jennifer Sibley, Sharon Yost, Sandra Moffatt, and Denise Scheibmeir as well as Library Director Andrea Sobba.

I. Secretary's Report – The minutes were approved (Huettenmueller/Yost).

II. Treasurer's Report – Andrea provided an overview of the balance sheets for library revenue and expenditures. Summer reading program donations are still being received and will be deposited into the Gifts & Memorials account to cover program activities. Interest amounts for the Gifts & Memorials account were \$2.03 in May and \$1.67 in June.

III. Payment of bills was approved (Scheibmeir/Yost).

IV. No citizens were present for comment.

V. Librarian Sobba presented the usual statistics for library usage and activities for May of 2021 as compared to May of 2020. Circulation was up by over 1,000 items now that the library is fully open and the summer reading program is back. Usage of e-formats was down somewhat. There were two storytime sessions with 17 persons attending. There were 6 library-related uses of the Archer Room. Patron usage for the library averaged 54/day and 7/hour. The summer reading program is going well and activities have been well-attended. Participants receive tickets for their involvement that they may place in a jar next to each of 25 prizes, including 4 bikes! A winner for each prize will be drawn from the jars at the program's conclusion.

VI. The Walker Art Committee has added ACJSHS art instructor Elizabeth Dyer as an ambassador to area youth who are also interested in the arts. Exhibits in the west wing of the library through April of 2022. Plans are being made to purchase tickets for the Van Gogh exhibit that will be at Union Station in February, 2022.

VII. FOL will hold its annual ice cream social at the depot on Thursday, 6/16/21, with music provided by the Osawatومية Community Band. A youth fishing derby will be held on Saturday, 6/25/21 if the weather allows. The annual book sale is tentatively planned for July in a "sidewalk sale" format.

VIII. A. Andrea inquired about a 30 cent raise for Tegan now that she has been with the library for 6 months. Andrea will ask the City of Garnett about its system for raises and trustees will discuss the issue further at the July meeting.

B. Non-library use of the Archer Room has begun. Reservations are being taken on a limited basis in order to avoid back-to-back occupancy while pandemic concerns linger.

C. This year Travis Wilson at the City of Garnett will be the liaison for the library's 2022 budget submission. Library employee Connie Fagg will be enrolling in the insurance program so the preliminary budget will need to accommodate this change. \$5,000 has been budgeted for Capital Improvements in 2022, but additional capital improvement funds exist to support a heating and cooling upgrade. Most other areas of the budget have allocations similar to 2021. Budget approval was delayed until all trustees had a chance to review.

IX. A. A malfunction in the main library's water fountain caused significant overnight flooding in the library interior. Employee Marci Long noticed it first and contacted Bill Ratliff for help in clearing the water with a shop vac. Wolken Plumbing & Electrical, Inc. recommended replacement of the fountain and was also willing to loan a shop vac to assist with clean-up. Andrea contacted Royal Restoration & Cleaning Co., Inc. in Ottawa to oversee the remaining moisture issues. Unfortunately, a major thunderstorm caused flooding in the Archer Room on the west side of the building and a power outage in the library not 24 hours later. Royal Restoration was able to address the additional flooding when power returned the next morning. Andrea is working with the City of Garnett to hire an engineer who can determine a permanent solution to the ongoing Archer Room flooding.

B. The American Rescue Plan Act is providing grants to libraries to address service concerns that the pandemic brought to light so that they are better prepared if a similar situation arises in the future. The application period ends on 7/19/21 with a planned implementation period of 8/1/21 - 1/31/22. Grants will be awarded ranging from \$1,000 - \$25,000. Some possibilities are outdoor seating, self-checkout stations and permanent outdoor lockers where patrons can pick up materials after hours. Trustees were encouraged to think over other possibilities while Andrea attends an SEKLS brainstorming session in the next few weeks.

C. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, 7/12/21 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned (Scheibmeir/Huettenmueller).

Submitted by Jennifer Sibley, Secretary