

Library Board Meeting
February 22, 2021 6:00 P.M.
Library Meeting Room and ZOOM

Present: Nelson Appell, Lynn Hart, Jeff Holtmeier, Leon Hove, Gretchen Pettet, Greg Skornia, Katie Schonaerts, Diane Lick, Patti Frick, Leanne Gisburne, Barbara Volmert and Carolyn Witt. Kristen, The Missourian.

President Jeff called the meeting to order and led the Pledge.

Greg moved that the agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by Katie and the motion passed. Leon then moved the minutes of the December meeting be approved. Katie seconded the motion, which passed.

Friends of the Library report: Patti reported that there had been good response to the annual Friends letter. Over 60 have joined or renewed. There will be another Father Dominic program March 23, which is sponsored by the Friends. Greg moved the report be accepted, Barbara seconded and the motion passed.

Library Director's Report:

Statistics & Collections: COVI-19 and the library's restrictions continue to affect library usage. Circulation was down 18% from January 2019. Adult circulation decreased more significantly than children. However, library patron usage remains constant. Door count and internet use is flat. Passports are again being processed, with social distancing enforced.

Programs: The Break Monk, Father Dominic, will be returning with a spring program....March 23. Growing Up in St. Louis was a good program and well attended.

Dial-A-Story will continue to be updated monthly. The staff has received positive comments on the program.

The Winter Reading Program continues, using the Beanstack app, available from the library's website. The Friends are sponsoring this program, with \$5 Gift Certificates from Downtown Washington for finishers. The library gave away 353 (!) Take Home Crafts in January. This service remains very popular and should be offered next year.

COVID-19: Despite recent City changes (end of the mask mandate), the library's policies remain in place. Masks are still required in City buildings.

Procedures still in force: Masks are required; we offer cloth, reusable masks for those who do not have them. One change: no limit of patrons in Library for checkouts/study. Limit time to 1 -2 hours, if possible. Library may be used for studying, but not in large groups. Library remains an official warming shelter during the cold days of this winter. Small donations accepted. Books are quarantined 2 days.

Evergreen statewide courier and local Scenic courier running normal schedules. Deliveries somewhat delayed state-wide due to weather in mid-February.

Technology: Online self-pay is scheduled to be enabled in March. We are experimenting with a Raspberry Pi for our OPAC catalogs. (cheaper)

Website: Nelson demonstrated many of the functions offered by the website, to the appreciation of the Board! It will be amazing!! We are further along than expected. The website will be accessible on computer or by phone. Events will be clearly displayed with graphics and will disappear after the event! It should launch by the end of March....or sooner!

Diane moved that the Librarian's Report be accepted. Katie seconded the motion and it carried.

Unfinished Business: HVAC – lost a compressor, but it was under warrantee. Coils in the ceiling continue to threaten the system, but currently money in the budget because repairs were expected. However, Wayne (Parks and facilities) has talked to the Council about this. It is in our best interest to have Wayne present this, as a member of staff..

New Business: Website, see above. A new grant opportunity has been formed: Libraries Transforming Communities, focused on community relations. Nelson found a grant through the American Library Assoc. to help fund this effort. All this involves "listening" to events the community thinks are important. The library remained open and serving during the COLD and snow recently. Still serving as a warming shelter for those in need.

There being no further business, Greg moved that the meeting be adjourned. Lynn seconded the motion, which passed.

Next Meeting: March 22, 2021