Manistee County Library
Board of Trustees Minutes
August 22, 2023
9:45am
MCL Meeting Room

Manistee County Library Board Meeting

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 9:45am

Pledge

Roll Call: Board members present – Terry Bennett, Mark Fedder, Pam Evans, Richard Blue, and Ralph Mortensen. Also present - Interim Director Julie Cirone, Business Manager Rebecca Barker, and Richard Schmidt. Dave Richards was absent with prior notice.

Manistee County Library Board Regular Meeting.

Agenda: Julie Cirone added an item for the board to vote on the transfer of $2,000 from Large Print to adult books in the budget.

Minutes: Ralph Mortensen motioned, Pam Evans seconded to approve the July 25, 2023 regular meeting minutes as submitted. Vote: unanimous - yes. Approved.

Public Comment: None.

Correspondence: The board received a thank you card from Debra Greenacre for her gift basket. The library also received Facebook comments praising management for the library’s high visibility in the community lately. One of the adult Summer Reading participants, normally a Wellston patron, wrote a comment about visiting the main branch and complimented the recent remodel.

Financials: July reports were submitted by Richards and MacDougall. Richard Blue motioned to approve the reports as submitted, Ralph Mortensen seconded. Vote: unanimous - yes. Approved.

Administrative, Leadership Team, and Branch Reports:

Administrative: Julie is exploring more outreach opportunities throughout the county.

Leadership Team: Tech tutoring is staying busy, the weeding project has been completed and the RFID project is underway. The library held 18 programs for kids, tweens, and teens in July, with over 1000 participants attending. 190 children completed the summer reading program. The panic button project is being finalized and the library is planning new programs in the fall, including podcasting and video editing.

Branch Reports: The Book Bike made several trips through the county, including the festivals for Arcadia Days, Bear Lake Days, and Onekama Days. All branches are looking for opportunities to further reach new patrons who may not think the library has anything to offer them.
Committee Reports:

Facilities Committee: Schedule as needed.

Technology Committee: Schedule as needed.

Personnel Committee: A special Zoom meeting was held on August 8 with Bradbury Miller to discuss the new director search.

Policy Committee: Met 7/25/2023 to discuss new Internet Acceptable Use policy.

Finance Committee: Schedule as needed.

Old Business: The board is awaiting a more comprehensive report from Structure Tec regarding the Carnegie building.

After inquiry, per the library’s attorney, the library cannot sell or donate any assets to the Friends of the Library. The library will research putting any fixtures salvaged from the Bookhouse demolition into the next County auction.

New Business:

Motion to move $2,000 from Large Print to Adult Books: Pam Evans motioned, Mark Fedder seconded. Roll Call Vote: Evans- Yes. Blue- Yes. Mortensen- Yes. Bennett - Yes. Fedder- Yes. Approved.


Motion to allocate $3,000 to the Bear Lake branch for yearly maintenance costs: Richard Blue motioned, Ralph Mortensen seconded. Roll Call Vote: Evans- Yes. Blue- Yes. Mortensen- Yes. Bennett - Yes. Fedder- Yes. Approved.


Public Comment: None.

Director Search and Interim Director: At 10:55 am, Richard Blue motioned, with Mark Fedder seconding, that the board enter a closed session to discuss personnel. The closed session ended at 11:15 am.
**Board Training:** Interim Director Cirone presented materials related to intellectual freedom and censorship.

**Future Agenda Items:** Lockers, Narcan boxes, budget adjustments.

**Adjournment:** Mark Fedder motioned to adjourn the meeting. Richard Blue seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Secretary: Rebecca Barker, Business Manager

Date approved: 9/26/2023