

Library Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

5:00 pm

Blanchardville Public Library

Present: Stuart Bisbee, Heidi Hankley, Elizabeth Steele, Beth Kundert, Trisha Wahl

Absent: Grace Knutson

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm.

Treasurer's Report: Beth presented the board with her report and noted a checking balance of \$1,242.02.

Secretary's Report: Heidi read the minutes of the October 27th, 2021 meeting. Elizabeth moved to accept the minutes as read; second by Trisha. Motion carried. For future meetings, the minutes of the previous meeting will be provided to board members along with the agenda, so they can read and review them prior to the meeting.

Business:

Discussion on WiFi availability after hours: Stuart reported that Village President, Nick Crooks, requested that the board discuss the issue of offering WiFi availability when the library is closed. This request is in response to an issue that has arisen with a library patron that is using the library WiFi to access explicit materials within view of other people while on village hall property. The board discussed options ranging from requiring a password to access the WiFi, software that would block access to explicit material, and turning off the WiFi when the library isn't open. In the end, the board decided that this is an issue with the particular patron and not with offering WiFi as a service to the community. The library has a policy in place that states that the WiFi cannot be used to access explicit materials, so this patron is breaking that policy. The board would like to continue to make WiFi available and open to the public. Stuart will talk to Nick, tapping into his IT expertise, to see if there are any technological tools we can use to address this issue.

2022 Library Budget: Stuart presented the board with the 2022 village library budget, noting that the only major change is in employee wages and benefits, due to the village pay increase of 3%. The operation and materials budget remains the same as last year. The budget was approved by the village. Stuart noted that county payments to the library will be used to cover some wages as well as operation and materials costs above what the village budget covers. Because the county payments are variable from year to year, the board asked Stuart to calculate a rough total of essential expenditures that he pays for with the county money so that we can come up with a prudent reserve for that account.

Reports:

Program attendance and future programs: Stuart provided the board with information about program attendance as specified below. Storytime and after school programs will be taking a break until after the holidays, starting up again in January.

- Storytime: 6 participants
- After school program (3 meetings, mostly elementary age kids): 25 kids and 36 other participants
- Adult book club: 5 participants
- Storywalk in the park: On display for a week, no participant count taken
- Book or Treat: 175 participants
- Wisconsin Science Festival bag distribution: 41 bags passed out
- Turkey cupcakes: 28 participants
- Take home craft kits: 30 distributed
- Ornament-making station: 21 participants so far.
- On December 20, 2021, the movie "Elf" will be shown and people can make paper snowflakes.

Showcase and feedback for the library's new website: Stuart used the library's projector to show the board the wonderful new library website. Stuart and his wife, Gwen, did a fantastic job of creating a site that is easy to access and navigate. The site has a pleasant and fresh look. Stuart is still working on providing content for two menu items: "Support the Library" and "Meetings and Agendas."

Additional Comments from Library Board and Public, not on agenda:

Trisha reported that the village board informed her that Laura will be doing the village hall cleaning, including the library, as part of her position with the village. Two yearly deep-cleanings will also be done and the library will need to pay for one of these (\$250) while the village will pay for the other.

Trisha asked Stuart to work towards changing all purchasing accounts from Gretchen Dietrich's name to his name.

Set Next Meeting:

Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 5pm
Blanchardville Public Library

Adjournment: Heidi moved to adjourn the meeting; second by Elizabeth. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Hankley, Secretary