

Fort Madison Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of the regular meeting held February 20, 2014, 5:30 p.m. in the Sheaffer Memorial Meeting Room at the Fort Madison Public Library.

Present: Sharon Groene, Gerri Davis, Jared Reed, Ron Welder, Anne Heitz, Phil Hecht, Jane Sanford.

Staff Present: Sarah Clendineng (Library Director)

Excused Absences: Linda Beck, Mary Kay Moline and Travis Seidel.

The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by President Sharon Groene at 5:30 pm.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda – Reed; 2nd – Sanford. Carried Unanimously

Public Comments: There were no spoken or written public comments.

Approval of minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the January 16 meeting correcting typographical errors – Welder; 2nd – Reed. Carried Unanimously.

Corresponding Secretary: There was no correspondence.

Approval of Bills: Phil Hecht inquired about the bill from Hoenig, that is the annual fertilizer and weed treatment that is paid in advance. He has sold the business to someone else and they will be offering the same service, we will be paying them in the future. Geri Davis inquired about the flat rate boxes was not for flat rate boxes but the postage to mail them once they were packed. Sharon Groene inquired about the front door locks. With the cold, there have been issues with them locking correctly and we had to have a locksmith come out to look at them. Motion to approve the February 2014 bills – Welder; 2nd – Reed. Carried Unanimously.

Director's Report: The director will not be attending legislative day March 5. In addition to the attached report, the director will be going to the genealogy meeting next Monday to show them what has been done in the room, explain some of the reasons why it was done when it was done and how it was done. Also, so far the franchise fee seems to be going through. Industry hasn't really said anything, as indicated in this evening's paper. At best they are neutral right now. Sharon Groene inquired about the Maker Faire. The director explained that it's an opportunity for people who make something to come show off what they've made. It's more like a show and tell for adults. Depending on the size, there are different things. Ours would be smaller highlighting some things people are making in the community. One thing some libraries are doing is creating maker spaces for people to create things and the director will be attending a class on that in about a month. However, this is a very long range project. Phil Hecht complimented the director on taking up junior achievement. The director indicated that she's really enjoying it. Jared Reed inquired about the tech petting zoo. The library will have the devices in the meeting room, it will be open house style, stop in whenever you want. We may provide some light refreshments. People can also bring in their own devices for brief troubleshooting. Sharon Groene complimented the director about the blind date with a book display. The staff work day that was cancelled due to bad weather will not be rescheduled due to the inconvenience to the public of closing the library for a day. That is why we try to schedule them for holidays we would normally be open. There is some expectation that the library might be closed anyway.

Committee Reports

Building Committee: Jane Sanford asked about the roof access. That is for the heating, since they have to go up on the roof to access the heating units, the roof has to be clear of ice and snow for them to get up there. Jared Reed followed up on the squeaky doors. The women's room has been taken care of. The director still needs to take care of a couple in the men's room.

This spring we will have to do something about the planter. There are water issues with the wall connected to the building. During the last big rain storm, we had major water coming in under that wall. The director recommends removing it entirely and placing a small patio area there with possibly a table or a couple of benches. We would need to do something about a sign, a lighted sign would be disproportionately expensive. However we could do something about a sign with lights illuminating it. We could also add a sidewalk out to the east parking lot at the same time. We will put a notice in the legal section advertising that we are looking for proposals.

Program Committee: There is a magician coming during library week. He puts on a great show for both kids and adults. There is quite a bit of interest in the next Pushing the Limits talk.

Old Business

Finalize study room policy: The director changed the capacity slightly after taping off the area and playing around with existing tables and chairs. Anne Heitz recommended changing “or less” to “or fewer” in paragraph 4. She also inquired about if we don't get the study room key back would we have to change the locks? We would. Phil Hecht recommended changing the penalty for not returning a key to requiring a deposit for future use rather than loss of privilege. Motion to table the study room policy pending minor changes to language – Welder; 2nd – Sanford. Carried Unanimously.

New Business:

Fine Read Down During Spring Break: The children's librarians have asked about doing a fine read down program during spring break. This would require kids to read in the library and, for each 15 minutes they read, they get 1 book buck. Book bucks can either be applied toward a fine or to purchase prizes, we typically use left over prizes from previous years reading programs. We don't lose a lot of revenue from this but it does help out some kids who are blocked from using the library. Motion to approve fine read down during spring break – Reed; 2nd – Hecht. Carried Unanimously.

Motion to adjourn until the next meeting March 20, 2014, 5:30 pm Fort Madison Public Library – Sanford; 2nd – Davis. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.