

Moorhead Library

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting, April 13, 2021

Virtual Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

Present: Doug Greenley, Kristi Carlson, Chizuko Shastri, Samantha Gust, Neely Benten, Kim Melton, Kellie Meehlhause

There were enough board members present to have a quorum. Douglas Greenly, Vice President, conducted the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

- Douglas moved to approve agenda, board seconded. Motion passed

Approval of Minutes from February 2021 Meeting

- Samantha moved to approve the minutes, Kellie seconded, motion passed

Summer Library Experience Preview – Kai Thorstad, Youth Librarian

- Kai shared summer events. Theme: Tails and Trails
 - Events can be in-person, distanced and masked. Taking place in the parking lot in-between the Library and the Rourke
 - June 8th – Pet show. Pets both real and stuffed are welcomed
 - June 16th – One Vegetable One Community presentation
 - June 23rd – Markus from the Hjemkomst Center will presenting on immigrant stories
 - June 30th – Passive craft, butterfly feeder
 - July 7th – Take home scavenger hunt
 - July 14th – Cloth facemask decorating
 - July 21st – Postcard party
 - July 28th – Finger painting a mural to be hung in the library
 - For more information, you can visit the Moorhead calendar on LARL.org and handouts will be available in the Library. Most events will be for elementary and middle school aged children, but all are invited.

LARL Board Update – LARL Members

- Chizuko sent information that was shared with the board regarding LARL Board updates

City Council Report – Council Liaison

- Council Member Caroon was unable to attend today's meeting. Prior to the meeting, she shared that the Ward 2 position is open and the council will interviewing candidates

Director's Report

- Back to normal hours starting March 1st
- Traffic is slower in the evening
- The gate count is down by about 50% from "normal" years
- Maria Hornbacher event on May 18th.
- This will be the first in-person event since the onset of the pandemic. Hoping to make it a hybrid event. This event is part of the 60th Anniversary schedule
- Inviting people to take participate in 60 books for 60 years to help celebrate the 60th Anniversary
- Still working on the book truck schedule. Hiring a part-time staff person for the summer months
- Legal kiosk is up and running (in partnership with Legal Services of MN)
- Staffing update:
 - Tiffany Ross was recently promoted to a full time Librarian position
 - Hired Kaiylin Allen to replace Tiffany's previous position
 - Bag sale currently taking place. Will have another sale outdoors mid-May
- Comments:
 - It was recommended to have a service menu at the entry to let patrons know their options

County Library Board Position

- No update at this time

Police Review and Discussion – Code of Conduct

- Code of Conduct will go to the LARL Board in May-

- Biggest change has been regarding proselytizing
- Comments:
 - A question was raised about the need for a lawyer to be involved in these changes. LARL has a lawyer they work with.

Endowment Funds

- Endowment with the FM Area Foundation (approximately \$125 a year)
- Board needs to approve to either reinvest, or spend the funds
 - Kim Melton made a motion to reinvest the funds. Neely Benton seconded. Motion passed.

Needs Assessment Update

- Background information
 - Survey results came back and were mostly good. Some negative feedback about the facility, restrooms, and concerns about certain populations using the library
 - Condition of the current building is a concern
 - Boiler and HVAC are consistently breaking down.
 - Roof, lighting and other systems are nearing break down
 - Layout and amenities are not what the community needs
 - The city is moving towards more joint facilities
- Will find out this summer if the city has permission to bring the ½ cent sales tax to be approved to go to vote
- Subcommittees (building committee, Vote Yes committee)
- Comments:
 - A question was raised about renovating vs finding a new space. It would not be financially feasible to renovate
 - Comments were made regarding what types of organizations or resources could be collocated with the library in its new space

Legislative Update

- RLBSS (funding the MN library systems receives from the state) – there has not been an increase in that pot of funding since 2007 and there is an issue in the way that funding is allocated. It is being asked to change the formula to be more equitable and an increase in funding
- In both the house and senate education omnibus bills
- Legacy funding bill (money used to offer arts and cultural programming) – this funding is never guaranteed

LARL Donor Report

- New donor report has been created and are available in the library

Other Business

- City council tours occurred last week. Small turn out, but it went well

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for September 14, 2021