

PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING

Minutes of Monday, September 11, 2023

Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Raymond Van DeGiessen.

Members present: Kit Waters, Ray Van DeGiessen, Bethany Osborn, Sloane Arana, Meghan Dorey, Justin Addis

Library Staff present: Caitlyn Baker and Callie Cortner.

Minutes: Waters motioned to accept. Osborn seconded. Passed.

Circulation Reports and Cash Receipts for Aug '23: Overdrive includes the Libby app. Blackstone Unlimited is working on getting login for the Library so they can get numbers. Hoopla will be going away at the end of the month. They had been trying to communicate for months with Hoopla to let them know that they would cease their service when the money ran out. Hoopla kept reaching out to see about extending service, and yesterday sent a bill for \$249.25, and they still have not shut it off. It is no longer in the library system. Cortner will call after the meeting about it.

Laptops do not leave the Library; one man lives outside the county and comes in and uses the laptop. They waived the fee because he does translation services for the residents in Ottawa County, so the residents benefit from using the laptop.

There are brain games in the health literacy section as they help residents with cognitive challenges.

The Library is trying to promote more kids' games. They will take games that are missing pieces because they will use them to help replenish games that have lost pieces.

The State pays for HelpNow, JobNow, and VetNow; if they do not see usage, they will not continue it. HelpNow is excellent for assisting with homework, JobNow does virtual interview and resume assistance, and VetNow helps veterans access benefits. Waters asked if they had contacted the American Legion about VetNow. Cortner said, not yet.

Beanstack usage dropped off after the summer reading. Melissa has started doing adult reading challenges.

Preservica. They have budgeted to purchase more space. Cyaira is starting to weed out duplicate information and irrelevant things to the area. She is working with other groups and has passed information on to them and received information from other libraries doing away with their genealogy department. Waters mentioned that she saw that Cyaira was credited for helping with the Jim Ellis memorial for the newspaper. Baker mentioned that Ciara loves to help with that stuff and research.

Baker said the Library is creating a list of tasks volunteers could help with and will put that information soon.

The \$560 is from Friends of the Library, a reimbursement for the Imagination Library.

August tends to be slower with the door count because of back-to-school and fewer programs.

Events: Outreach: Northeast Tribal Health System is doing a grand opening of the playground, and they will be having a table out there and taking a story walk there and other informational stuff. They are looking for events to the table and creating a social calendar around town.

Genealogy Socials: Cyaira is hosting these, and the time, date, and number of attendees will be in the programming reports that go out with the Miami Public Library newsletter.

Let's Talk About It theme will be "The Cowboy." There will be two this month. It was rescheduled because of the power outage. Kurt Lively drove from Tahlequah all the way here, and it was closed, so they paid his speaking fee and mileage and will pay for his mileage again.

- The Virginian by Owen Wister on August 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. The Scholar: Kurt Lively
- The Log of a Cowboy by Andy Adams on September 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. The Scholar: Andrew Vassar

Leadership Miami: Cortner has been accepted. The first round is at Northeast Tech, and she will still be available to answer any questions that come up. The City paid \$350 for her to attend, so it will not come from the original library budget. Cortner and Baker make a point of going to the Morning Brews to meet and talk and see how the Library can help people's needs.

The Association of Rural Small Library Conference (ARSL) will be in Wichita. Cortner is a co-chair for the Marketing and Communications Committee and will be attending next week.

Outdoor Space: We are getting concrete on the Library's north side. The Library wants to purchase a book. The price continues to increase, and we have the money for it since it was included in the outdoor plaza plans. The only issue is that we are unsure of where to put it. The Board that the book drop be purchased now, in light of the increase in cost.

Staffing: There is a strong candidate for children's librarian.

Arts & Humanities: There will be a meeting on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. Patron Prom is going well. So far, they have raised enough money to cover expenses. Ottawa County Arts Festival will be more personalized as we cut ties with our previous partner. More attention will be given to that after the Patron Prom.

Assistant Library Director's Report:

Health and Literacy: The grant for \$9,000 was not accepted, but did get \$8,000. They will be doing an under-the-desk bicycle and can only get 2. The Library will be a pilot program for a stationary bike desk.

Imagination Library: Last week, Baker met with all the state libraries about doing a "Dolly Day" on Dolly's birthday, January 19, 2024. There will be a focus on increasing donations, awareness, and children's activities. We will promote sponsorships.

Excel High School: We have two new people. There are six scholarships left. The Board asked if there was something special they could do for people who finished the program. The hard part is that Excel HS mails the

diploma directly to the person, but the City would like to have the mayor present the diploma at the city council. The Library would like to have a party. One person is excited about sharing the moment with their family.

Finance: The 2022-2023 budget year has officially ended. The Library is working on the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Friends of Library Report: Cortner and Baker will no longer attend FOTL meetings. They will meet with the current president to give updates to the Friends. This will no longer be included in the minutes.

Library Redesign Plan: Cortner has presented the plan to the City. L&M Office Furniture is quoted on state contract pricing.

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m. Next meeting scheduled Monday, October 16, 2023 12:05 the Library.

Minutes by: Kit Waters

Absent

Ray Van DeGiessen

Kristina Ekaterina Ulrey

Kit Waters Ulrey

Bethany Osborn

Bethany Osborn

Absent

Sloane Arana

Meghan Dorey

Meghan Dorey

Justin Addis

Justin Addis