

MINUTES

The **Rogers Library Board of Trustees** met for a regular session 711 S. Dixieland Rd, Rogers AR Glotzbecker Conference Room on March 19, 2024 at 6:35 PM. The meeting was called to order by Steve Hardin.

ROLL CALL:

- Board Present: Cindy Holmer, Steve Hardin, Judy Tobler, Debbie Woehr
- Board Not Present: Richard Bland
- RPL Present: Hannah Pearce, Randee Worster
- RPL Not Present: Joy Smith
- City Present: Bailey Crossett

PUBLIC FORUM:

Rachel Blainey and Brice Wagner

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Hannah Pearce made a disclaimer that because there is not an official President, this meeting is just for general library business, and not to discuss employee matters.
- Bailey Crossett asked if anyone would like to nominate Steve Hardin as Chairman for the evening.
 - Cindy Holmer nominated Steve Hardin as Chairman for the evening.
 - Debbie Woehr motioned that nominations be ceased.
 - Nomination carried unanimously.
- Steven Hardin asked the public if there is anything the Board can help them with.
 - Rachel Blainey stated she is interested in possibly becoming a Board Member, and wanted to observe a meeting.
- Hannah Pearce stated that the Board should vote that there is an official Board vacancy, and to elect a Secretary.
 - Judy Tobler motioned to recognize a vacancy on the Board.
 - Cindy Holmer seconded the motion.
 - Motion unanimously carried.
 - Cindy Holmer nominated Debbie Woehr to be Secretary.
 - Judy Tobler made a motion that by acclimation, Debbie Woehr be accepted as Secretary.
 - Motion unanimously carried.
- Steve Hardin asked if any corrections need to be made to the November 2023 minutes.
 - Debbie Woehr made a motion to approve the minutes as they are
 - Cindy Holmer seconded motion.
 - Motion unanimously carried.

FOUNDATION BOARD:

Reported by Hannah Pearce.

- Hannah Pearce confirmed that Cindy Holmer did attend the most recent Foundation Zoom meeting.

- Hannah Pearce stated that she created a rotation for the Board Members to attend future meetings.
 - Steve Hardin volunteered to go to the March 25th meeting.
- The Foundation recapped Top Chef due to not meeting for a while.
 - Grossed just under \$45,000 for event.
 - Made approximately \$8,000 profit.
- Hannah Pearce asked for a \$3500 Grant for the electrical work for the book kiosk, which was approved.
- The Foundation recapped the We Write for You program, which was very successful.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:

Reported by Hannah Pearce.

- The Friends of the Library had their annual and monthly meeting in February.
- They went over the bookstore's expenses.
- They discussed how to promote the bookstore as much as possible.
 - They get involved in other activities: Brewtastic Book Fair, NWA Bookfest, etc.
 - They are working on increasing their social media presence.
- They have started selling items on eBay, and have found a lot of success doing so.
- Jo Boucher is moving out of the area soon.
- They have their monthly meeting at 9:30am, on the 4th Monday of every month.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Reported by Hannah Pearce.

- Hannah Pearce directed the Board to look at the Annual Report, which recaps financial numbers.
- Hannah Pearce explained that the Glotzbecker fund appears lower than planned, however, the library did not receive 3 checks that were supposed to have been received before the end of 2023, until January 2024.
 - Glotzbecker fund is always available, and does not expire at the end of the year.
 - These funds are spent on website maintenance, travel books, eBooks, and audiobooks.
 - Steve Hardin asked if the library doesn't spend what is given, if the amount given will be lowered.
 - Hannah Pearce stated that the amount stays the same regardless of the spending.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Reported by Hannah Pearce.

- Hannah Pearce stated there are a lot of programs happening throughout the library right now.
 - Eclipse programs: Dr. Katherine Ault of the NWA Space and Science Center, Flip Puttoff on photographing the eclipse, Dan Skoff from KNWA will present a program.
 - There will not be any programs on the day of the eclipse.

- The library has been handing out eclipse glasses since mid-February.
- The library is beginning to have gardening programs.
 - An adult program has already planted onions and potatoes in the new raised garden beds.
- This July is the library's 120th anniversary
 - Amber Aultman has been archiving items from the library's history, and many will be on display to celebrate the anniversary.
 - The library is currently working on ideas for a celebration.
 - The library won 2 free weeks of billboard time, which will be used to promote the library.
- All departments are gearing up for Summer Reading programs.
- DIA Cultural Fair will be held in April, with different cultural groups dancing, playing music, and holding other activities.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Reported by Hannah Pearce.

- 2023 had the highest digital circulation numbers on record.
- In-house visits are increasing, but are still lower than 2017.
 - It's possible that people are coming in to renew/obtain a library card, and then using it solely for digital items.
- Constantly brainstorming on how to get new residents to come in and get a library card.
 - Possible flyers to renters and new residents.
 - Possibly work with the USPS to get into their packet that they offer after change-of-address requests.
- Many projects have been completed/in progress:
 - Sidewalk joint filler/repair completed.
 - Community Room flooring replacement complete.
 - Concrete slab and book kiosk placement are complete.
 - Electrical work and wrap are still pending.
 - Custodian cubicle was reorganized.
 - Front sign glass has been repaired, and a new letterboard has been ordered.
 - 12 Magnolia trees were planted.
 - Teen window seats will be reupholstered.
 - A new patron bench has been picked out.
 - City Landscaping will be trimming the Holly bush, and adding new plants.
 - Disabled parking stops will be painted yellow for visibility.
- Currently working on the State Report
- Two databases, that are provided by the Arkansas State Library for free, will be going away soon.
 - Learning Express
 - This will be added to what the library purchases once it is no longer provided for free.
 - Mango Languages

- It is being replaced by Pronunciator, which will also be provided for free.
- Many Gale eResources have been canceled due to lack of use.
 - Looking into other databases to purchase in place of Gale that will be widely used.
- We Write for You event in February.
 - Put on by Alpha kappa Alpha, the Tea Rose Foundation, and the RPL Foundation.
 - 3 authors and illustrators participated in event.
 - Angie Thomas, who wrote The Hate You Give, was present.
 - Approximately 250 people participated.
 - Both age groups did a story time, and then the children were able to ask questions, and participate in workshops.
 - This is the biggest children's program held at the library.
- Currently working on a Seed Library.
 - It will be an honor system: take a few packets, and then donate seeds later.

OLD BUSINESS:

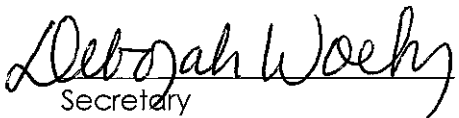
- Hannah Pearce stated that outreach is a priority for the library.
- Steve Hardin asked about accessibility for disabled/special needs individuals.
 - Hannah Pearce indicated that research has been done on different programs, but because disabilities are so vast, it's challenging to create them.
- Hannah Pearce requested approval of the Strategic Plan revisions, backdating it to 2022-2025.
 - Judy Tobler suggested adding words to a few sections, specifically "providing" or "provide".
 - Cindy Holmer motioned to approve Strategic Plan in principle, subject to the discussed changes.
 - Judy Tobler seconded motion.
 - Motion unanimously carried.
- Judy Tobler motioned to approved all three of the previous month's financials.
 - Debbie Woehr seconded the motion.
 - Motion unanimously carried.

ADJOURN:

1. Vote to adjourn.
 Motion by Debbie Woehr, Seconded by Cindy Holmer.
 Action: Adjourn
 Motion passed to adjourn at 7:38pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:


 Secretary


 Chairman