

Minutes
Nobles County Library Board
Monday, June 13, 2022

- **The following board members were in attendance:** Kathy Craun, Jennie Kinser, Andrea Duarte Alonso, Peg Faber, Katie Kouba and County Commissioner Bob Paplow
- **Absent:** None.
- **Present library staff:** Library Director Beth Sorenson and Office Support Marci Moshier
- **Others present:** Pete Navara from Friends of the Library

Call to Order:

Peg Faber called the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Additions to Agenda:

None.

M/S/P: Duarte Alonso/Kinser

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Minutes:

The board reviewed the minutes from the May 9, 2022 meeting.

M/S/P: Kouba/Craun

Reports:

Financial:

The board reviewed the financial reports from May 2022, as well as the quarterly reports of the Worthington and Adrian donation funds.

M/S/P: Craun/Kinser

Claims:

The board reviewed the May 2022 claims. Kathy Craun questions what the hotspot claim was, Marci Moshier explained that a patron checked out a mobile hotspot but didn't return it. We received payment for it but had to reimburse it to Plum Creek, as they own the hotspots.

M/S/P: Kouba/Craun

Circulation:

The Board reviewed the circulation reports for May 2022. Kathy Craun comments that we're doing better, like the Board talked last month. Beth Sorenson adds that some of the staff had been discussing this before the meeting also; that circulation was down a little bit compared to last year but Marshall was way up. Other libraries were down too, question why Marshall remained so high. There is discussion amongst the Board that Marshall has a different community, with the large college but they also have a diverse community like us. There also is discussion about how the library/staff could work more with the schools and somehow form a partnership of sorts to gain more library awareness. It's mentioned possibly having a table at conferences where parents/children could sign up for library cards, putting together a packet to send home with kids at the beginning of the school year, get transportation for programs lined up, possibly doing a booth at the International Festival and the Regatta or even a float in the Turkey Day parade.

PCLS Report:

Kathy Craun updates the Board that the next Governing Board meeting for Plum Creek is this Wednesday, June 15th. Beth Sorenson reports from the Advisory Council Meeting that Plum Creek had been working on replacing all of the mobile beacon hotspots and they should all be updated and work better now. Aspen Discovery is still in the works,

which is an overlay to our catalog that will make it easier to search and filter results; this will also be available in multiple languages. A Collection Development Policy was approved; Beth isn't sure yet if we have one for the Nobles County Library but we can use Plum Creek's policy and tweak it to fit our library if we don't have one. Plum Creek is also working on a Form of Concern, as there have been a lot of book challenges lately, this will help to be prepared if something like that happens. There will also be a workshop on Book Challenges in July but no date has been set yet. Beth continues that Plum Creek is getting kits ready, each library will be receiving Oral and Video History Kits, training workshops will be in July for those as well. The kits will have a video camera and a recorder for families to check out and record family histories. There also are Story Telling Kits being put together; each library will get five kits that will have books, puppets and different activities.

Old Business:

Strategic Plan – Update/Discussion

- Beth Sorenson updates the Board that a lot has been happening in the basement of the library. The floors in the basement were cleaned and waxed, walls were painted, a new door was put in and we now have two storage rooms. The Program Room has been set up for the Summer Reading Program and will be used for adult programs as well. Five lockable cabinets had already been purchased for Jackie's things and dollies have been ordered so the cabinets can be put on them, then they can be moved around to define spaces in the Program Room. The two storage rooms have been cleaned and organized as well as expanded. Jackie's program items have been moved out of the original conference room and we now have two conference rooms; Marci Moshier made the quotes on her Cricut for the two conference rooms, which helped liven the spaces up a little bit. Beth continues that the staff has been weeding the adult non-fiction books and the CDs to try and open more space and make the materials more visible. There was a graduation display last month and now there is a foreign language display, which has been nice. Two new tables and eight new chairs have been ordered to put in the Youth Room's reading area, as the old tables are now down in the Program Room. Adrian took two of the small tables and chairs so help with their Summer Reading Program in Adrian. A new bookshelf display has been ordered for the Youth Room but that won't be arriving until November.
- Beth Sorenson also informs the Board that she attended the Art Center Board meeting last week, along with County Administrator Bruce Heitkamp and County Commissioner Bob Paplow. They discussed ways to share the space as well as the needs for space.
- Beth continues that we're working on ways to get people that come into the library and leave right away to stay a little longer. There was a 'Take-and-Make Kit' in May for graduation cards, with 30 participants from Worthington and eight participants from Adrian.
- Beth adds that we are exploring ways to participate in the community events – such as the Regatta. She attended part of it on Friday. She has some ideas for next year.
- Beth updates that the library has partnered with the SW Minnesota Opportunity Council (SMOC) to place one of their candidates to help at the Worthington library, as well as the Adrian library. This person will work 20 hours a week, with time divided between Adrian and Worthington for programming, cover for staff that are gone, help with the 'Take-and-Make Kits', things like that. Beth adds that she is interviewing a person tomorrow and it sounds like she's a pretty good candidate.

Ancestry - Update

- Beth Sorenson states that there isn't much to update on Ancestry. We have had one patron from Worthington and one patron from Adrian ask about Ancestry. The plan is to try and push it down the road for now and if we bring it back we will really advertise for it. Beth adds that there is a lot on our plate right now but in the future it may tie in really well with the Oral and Video History kits.

New Business:

Programs Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

- Beth Sorenson reports that the Friends of the Library are going to be sponsoring Toby Kid and the Zoo Man for the Summer Reading Program. We have already received the checks from them. The Board voices their appreciation to Pete Navara. The Friend's next meeting is July 14th.

Other:

- **Arthur Norby – Program Results**
 - Beth Sorenson states that 13 people attended this program.

Upcoming Events:

- **Adult Bingo Night – Monday, June 20th from 5-7 p.m.**
 - Beth Sorenson adds that there has been quite a bit of interest in this. The staff has been handing out bookmarks . The Board comments that there are good sponsors listed on the flyer.

Adjournment

Peg Faber adjourns the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

M/S/P: Duarte Alonso/Kouba

Next Meeting:

Monday, July 11, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the library's Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted, Marci Moshier, Office Support