

Minutes
Nobles County Library Board
Monday, July 17, 2023

- **The following board members were in attendance:** Peg Faber, John Stewart, Bridget Harberts, Jennie Kinser and County Commissioner Bob Paplow
- **Absent:** Katie Kouba
- **Present library staff:** Library Director Beth Sorenson and Office Support Marci Moshier
- **Others present:** Kari Lucin (The Globe) and Bruce Heitkamp (County Administrator)

Call to Order:

Peg Faber called the meeting to order at 3:58 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda:

M/S/P: Stewart/Kinser

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Minutes:

The board reviewed the minutes from the June 2023 meeting.

M/S/P: Kinser/Stewart

Reports:

Financial:

The board reviewed the financial reports from June 2023.

M/S/P: Stewart/Kinser

Claims:

The board reviewed the claims from June 2023.

M/S/P: Stewart/Kinser

Circulation:

The board reviewed the circulation reports from June 2023. The board briefly discusses the increase in circulation, as both libraries have been busy this summer.

PCLS Report:

Bridget Harberts reports the two biggest updates with Plum Creek are:

- 1.) Updated their mission and vision statements.
- 2.) Legislature passed to re-work their computer model for how they allocate the funding to the library systems.

Bridget gives a brief history that in 2010, the State had re-worked their computer model for how they allocate funding to the library systems and Plum Creek saw a drastic drop in their funding. In 2009 their budget was \$483,000, 2010 it dropped to \$402,000 and 2011 it dropped to \$351,000 and has stayed at that level ever since. With Legislature changing the funding model, Plum Creek's budget will change substantially for next year to \$586,000. The State changed the funding model and voted to increase funding, which was planned to be used for wages. Plum Creek Board then voted to go with a 9.5% wage increase for the Plum Creek Staff. Bridget adds that the Plum Creek employees had ranked lowest or second lowest in the state, but now they will be more in the middle.

Old Business:

▪ **Library Remodel - Update**

- Bruce Heitkamp informs the board that the County Commissioners have voiced their opinions and that it won't do any good to shoot for the sky; it'll just be shot down again. It was discussed that Koch Hazard will crunch

numbers to see if a remodel could be done on the upstairs and a facelift in the basement; they will get back to the Focus Group in early August. There has been regular communication with Koch Hazard on this project.

▪ **Law Library – Update**

- Beth Sorenson explains that our County Attorney passed away and this will probably be put on hold. She had been talking with the Law Library Board, so they are aware of the conversations and it will be up to them to come back to us.

▪ **Collaboration with Public Health – Story Stroll – Update**

- Beth Sorenson has not heard anything from Public Health since the initial contact. The Friends of the Library have not been talked to about this either, but the board would like to keep them in mind to help with this.

New Business:

▪ **Programming Policy**

- Beth Sorenson explains that there weren't any changes to this policy, it was just due for review.
- Policy is reviewed. Motion made to accept the Programming Policy. M/S/P: Stewart/Harberts

▪ **Meeting Room Policy**

- Beth Sorenson clarifies that this is a new policy. She adds that the board would be approving the first page and a half now and under the "For Consideration" section would be for later. Beth continues that down the road there might be a private entrance for a room that could be available to the public to use when the library isn't open. The capacities are questioned; that is something that would have to be calculated, but that could all change soon anyway. The board discusses that this will all need to be discussed in much more detail once we have the space but it's good to start thinking about it. The fees that patrons would pay for the rooms could be used for more TVs, screens, equipment, tables and chairs, etc. The board decides to table this policy for now, until more information is available.

▪ **Library Board Districts**

- Beth Sorenson updates the board that about a month ago when the library board's per diem checks were sent out, she was made aware that board member Katie Kouba had moved. When Katie joined the board she was in District 1; now she is in District 3, which is Bridget Harbert's district. Katie will now be listed as at-large for District 1. There isn't a vacancy on the board at this time, but when terms come up then things may need to be figured out. Beth reminds every one of their terms: Peg Faber 2023, Katie 2024, Jennie 2024, Bridget 2025 and John 2025.

Other:

▪ **Program Results:**

- Adult Programs: Carol Blackford (4), Adrian Lee (17), Yoga With Melissa (7) and Frank Weber (4).
- Youth Programs: Jolly Pops (97), Reading Rabbits (138), Ralph Covert (47), Mobile Signs (65) and Movie Night on the Lawn (63).

▪ **Upcoming Events:**

Adult Programs - Worthington:

- July 19th _____ Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- August 9th _____ Hannah Klinkhammer – creative writing workshop – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- August 16th _____ AARP – Online Fraud & Cyber Crimes – 10:00 a.m.

Youth Summer Reading Programs - Worthington:

- Tuesdays: Teens (Grades 6-12) – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Wednesdays: Story Time (Preschool – Kindergarten) – 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., Wednesdays: 1st - 3rd Grade – 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., Thursdays: 4th & 5th Grade – 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Youth Programs for All Ages - Worthington:

- July 19th _____ Climb Theatre – 10:00 a.m.
- July 20th _____ Movie Night on the Lawn – 9:00 p.m.
- July 26th _____ Naturalist Program with Tiffany – 1:00 p.m.
- August 9th _____ Summer Reading Carnival – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- August 10th _____ Movie Night on the Lawn – 8:30 p.m.

Youth Summer Reading Programs - Adrian:

- Wednesdays: Story Time – 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. and Arts & Activities – 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Youth Programs for All Ages - Adrian:

- July 19th _____ Climb Theatre – 1:30 p.m. (at the Adrian Elementary School)

Adjournment

Peg Faber adjourns the meeting 4:30 p.m.

M/S/P: Stewart/Kinser

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 14, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the library's Conference Room #2.

Respectfully submitted, Marci Moshier, Office Support