



BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

July 28th, 2022

CALL TO ORDER – Board of Trustees

A Board of Trustees meeting, of the Peru Public Library, was held on Thursday, July 28th, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM and was presided over by President Alison Paul.

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Regine Brindle, Regina McDowell, Bryan Maggart, Leslie Murphy, and President Alison Paul.*

MEMBER APOLOGIES: *Deb Swihart.*

DIRECTOR PRESENT: *Maryann Farnham and Assistant Director, Michelle Spangler, were present.*

GUESTS: *Staff member Lisa Rummel was also present, to take the minutes.*

President Paul noted that there would be a couple of new items added under New Business.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

June Minutes

Brindle had revised and approved the minutes. Murphy motioned to accept the minutes and McDowell seconded. The motion passed with all ayes.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Swihart, the treasurer, had sent an email stating she had reviewed the financials, and everything was good after one small correction. Maggart motioned to accept the financial statements, claims, and bank and deposit statements. Brindle seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all ayes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After a brief discussion, it was decided Brindle's presentation would go under new business.

AGENDA

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Farnham reported that the library received the letter stating we are in compliance with Public Library Standards.

No one had heard anything about the appointment of a new board member from County Council and there was no official news about that.

The Library is sponsoring a summer concert at the Peru Amphitheater on Friday, August 19, from 7-9 PM at the cost of \$400, after Farnham discussed the opportunity with Interim Mayor Pat Russell.

Farnham considers this to be part of the library's community support and involvement.

The day before the board meeting was the last Wednesdays at the Park program. The only complaint was how heavy the large water slide was to pack and pick up. It took forever to clean up after the program, even with staffs' families helping. But the public loved it.

Spangler reported on the Summer Reading Program. It was the program's last week and as of that morning, there had been 416 participants with 112 completions. There were 1321 total people at the Wednesday programs. Each of the July Wednesday programs drew around two hundred people. The ceiling tiles in the east meeting room haven't been changed yet. The basement project is almost ready. No one is allowed to complain about the AC being too high. The west exterior step project has been put on hold till after the basement stuff.

OLD (UNFINISHED) BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Murphy presented the budget committee's recommendation after Farnham made a few remarks. Farnham noted that Swihart wasn't present, but had told them to use the Social Security COLA index of 7.3%-10% for the cost-of-living wage increase. So they did 7% for management, 7.3% for part-time/full-time staff, and 10% for the fully part-time people to get their wages up to \$11 an hour. When finished doing everything with the COLA, they were still under budget in the wages/salaries section. The bonuses come out of there as well, so it should be about perfect. The budgeted amounts are also only estimates, based on what the part-time people could end up working. Farnham then discussed some of the other budget area increases, including bumping up the repair and maintenance fund. Farnham explained that there are two sections for repair and maintenance, one being for supplies and one for the labor. Maggart asked who all got PERF, which was followed by a discussion about some of the positions and how much they pay.

It is the recommendation of Murphy, speaking on behalf of the budget committee, that the library board of trustees accept the 2023 budget as presented and prepared.

McDowell asked for clarification regarding final approval of the budget. Paul explained that the library board of trustees are in charge of the library budget unless it goes into binding review. A public hearing allow members of the public to attend and object to how the budget is being used – which has never happened before. The public hearing is at the September board meeting, followed by the adoption meeting in October.

Maggart seconded the recommendation of the budget committee, as presented by Murphy, and it passed with all ayes from the board.

Next on the agenda was the ERATE Funding Year 2023 Resolution. This has to be approved annually and by signature. It was passed around and everyone signed it. Brindle signed a second time to verify the signatures, as the board secretary. Farnham will send it in with a few other papers that go with it.

Paul added New Business to the agenda, to appoint a trustee board by-laws committee. She asked Brindle and McDowell to serve on it and both agreed. She thought they would have to meet 2-3 times. The by-laws need to be reviewed every 3 years, and a zoom meeting policy and electronic signature policy need to be added at present.

Brindle also added New Business. With the sale of postcards to fundraise for the time capsule going well, she talked with Troy Caldwell's at Caldwell Monuments, about proceeding with the plans. Caldwell's required the capstone design by August 1st. Copies of the design for the capstone were passed around and Paul asked if there was discussion. Brindle asked if they should mention that Marie Edwards was the first woman on the library board. The trail marker design ideas were also passed around. Those included one for the library, whose significance has otherwise not been explained. The

quote on the capstone design will be edited with the removal of a poorly placed comma - as found in the newspaper article - that makes the quote harder to understand. The signature on the design was also discussed. Paul motioned that the library board approve the design. Murphy seconded. The motion passed with all ayes.

Miami County Indiana Worth Remembering (MCIWR) also wanted to change date for the time capsule placement to September 10th, so it would fall on a Saturday instead of a Sunday.

As a side note, Cindy Billingsley entered the statue in a National Public Art Map Contest. Out of 500 entries, it was chosen and is now to be included on a national map of Public Art.

MCIWR is working with MCEDA (Miami County Economic Development Association) to combine the suffrage trail with the downtown trail, to save on costs.

Farnham also mentioned that the Library passport program is up and running, and is working.

The next meeting is on August 25th, at 6:30 PM.

There being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned by President Paul at 7:15 PM.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Lisa Rummel, Peru Public Library staff member

SECRETARY APPROVAL:

(Signature & Date)

Peru Public Library
