

City of Sheboygan
2019-05-23

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Minutes Mead Public Library Board of Trustees May 23, 2019

A meeting of the Mead Public Library (MPL) Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, May 23, 2019 in The Loft. The following Board of Trustees members were present: Board President Maeve Quinn, Vice-President Kathie Norman, Meg Albrinck, Alderperson Mary Lynne Donohue, Marcos Guevara, Nancy Mannchen, John Motiska, Sherry Speth and Kyle Whelton. Staff members present: Director Garrett Erickson, Business Manager Debbie DeAmico, Support Services Manager Diane Kallas, Community Resource Specialist Dawn Klister, Communications Specialist Josh Lintereur, Public Services Manager Melissa Prentice and Administrative Assistant Sydney Mehn. Board of Trustees members absent: Chris Campe. Members of the public present: Bernard Markevitch, Mayor Mike Vandersteen, Alderman Ryan Sorensen, Dolcye Johnson and Sharon Quicker.

OPENING OF MEETING: CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM. Quinn called the meeting to order at 3: 46 p.m. She determined there was a quorum present.

WELCOME TO NEW LIBRARY TRUSTEES Quinn welcomed Marcos Guevara, John Motiska and Sherry Speth

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Quinn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT [5 PEOPLE AT 5 MINUTES EACH] (PLEASE SIGN IN PRIOR TO MEETING). Bernard Markevitch spoke regarding recent incidents here at the library. He expressed his support for the library and willingness to be an ambassador of the library in the community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Whelton moved to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2019 meeting, Norman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND COMMON COUNCIL REPORTS. Quinn reported that in honor of Memorial Day, Mead will be closed on Sunday, May 27 th and Monday, May 28 th.

ADOPT RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE SERVICE OF DOLCYE JOHNSON AS MEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE. Whelton moved to approve the resolution in honor of the service of Dolcye Johnson; Donohue seconded the motion. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE MAEVE QUINN, CHAIR. REPORT OF MEETINGS ON 4 / 10 / 19 & 4 / 16 / 19. Quinn reported on the progress the committee was making. The group continues to flesh out the strategic goals and has made great strides in the process.

HR COMMITTEE KATHIE NORMAN, CHAIR. REPORT OF 5 / 14 / 19 MEETING Norman reported that there had been discussion on several items that would be coming up for possible action under item 3.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION OF LIBRARY SECURITY Erickson reported on the timeline associated with several incidences that had transpired at Mead:

On Friday, May 3rd around 5 p.m. Erickson received a phone call from Mead stating that there had been a person found unresponsive in the men's restroom. Staff had been completing closing rounds when he was discovered. Dawn Klister and Dann Claudon got involved upon discovery to unlock the door and secure the building. Paramedics and police were called to the scene where the man was declared deceased. In review of the camera footage, Klister discovered the man had entered the foyer at 3:39 p.m. and had gone straight into the bathroom, never entering the library. In the days following, Erickson worked closely with Quinn, Klister and Josh Lintereur to field questions from the public. The Sheboygan Police Department released a press statement about this incident on Wednesday, May 8th. The following week, on Tuesday, May 14th, a woman entered the library and proceeded to ask Klister to call her an ambulance. Klister questioned the woman to find out the medical need for an ambulance. The woman indicated she had smoked meth the night before, and was now not feeling good. The ambulance was called and arrived and the woman was taken to the hospital. The Sheboygan Scanner published the call, and from that report WHBL news radio station created and published a story to their website. The story's title and story were inaccurate, but Mead's reputation was damaged regardless. Erickson and Lintereur tried contacting the station several times and ways, but received no response. Erickson finally went to the radio station and spoke with the manager who took the article down right away. From there, Erickson, Klister and Lintereur worked to write a statement to the community about how the library was responding to the incidents, which was published on May 16th.

After Erickson had relayed the facts to the board, he and Klister spoke on some of the measures they have implemented, as well as opened up the discussion for suggestions and ideas. Whelton noted that there was a direct link between addiction and poverty, as was published in a study by the League of Women Voters. It was noted that there had been at least 4 other deaths of this nature in the last 6 weeks in Sheboygan. The group discussed Narcan use, and the adverse effects it could have. They also discussed the plaza renovation and the updated camera system as an aid to the safety issues, as well as the willingness of staff to work towards needed programming associated. Mayor Mike Vandersteen spoke regarding how the opioid problem has affected our community, indicating that a task force had been called together to help work towards resolution. 5:03 p.m. At this point in the meeting, Whelton left.

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION Erickson reported on the TO structure, noting a retirement affecting a group of employees. HR Committee had met and recommended an updated version. Albrinck moved to approve the Table of Organization as presented. Donohue seconded. The motion passed.

JOB DESCRIPTIONS Erickson reported that due to retirements and the restructuring of the TO, the HR Committee had met and the Business Manager, Support Services Manager and Public Services Manager job descriptions were updated with changes to education requirements. Norman moved to approve the updated descriptions as presented. Albrinck seconded. The motion passed.

DIRECTORS REPORT UPDATE ON SERVICES AND PROGRAMMING Prentice reported on the latest programs at Mead: Comic Con had brought in about 300 people, with upcoming programs including the Summer Library Program kickoff on May 20 th, the Mini Maker Faire on June 15 th, Tom Pease on June 20 th and ZooZort on June 25 th. She warned that due to the incidents in May, that the numbers will be noticeably down.

UPDATE ON OUTSIDE/BUILDING PROJECTS Kallas reported on all the projects around the library: Sump pump is in, cooling towers are now functional, 2 nd floor has new computer stations that are being put together, carpet for 2 nd floor is ordered and the hope is to install in July. The teen center wall is up and there is a quote out to wall off the makerspace all together. In addition, there have been some lighting updates as well as some drywall repair on the north emergency staircase.

MONTHLY STATISTICS Erickson reviewed the April statistics and they were found to be in good order.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2019 - 2020 (CLOSED BALLOT PERMITTED) PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT Donohu