Stone County Library

Regular Board Meeting

May 19, 2022

Beginning Time: 1:01 PM

Ending Time: 1:38 PM

The Board of Trustees of the Stone County Library met in regular session on Thursday, May 19, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Board President George Scott. Present were Steve Seaton, Nina Grayson, and Angie Evans.

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Mr. Seaton made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Ms. Evans seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried**.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Ms. Payne reported that the treasurer’s cash account balance was $415,744.77, and the building reserve account was $108, 329.54 at the end of April. She also shared that there were no unexpected expenditures in April. The audit is scheduled for min-June. Mr. Scott asked what the “grant expenses” category is for, and Ms. Payne explained that she uses that for purchases made for grants. Ms. Evans asked what the “electronic resources” category is, and Ms. Payne shared that it is used for databases and the Evergreen ILS expenditure. Ms. Evans made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. Ms. Grayson seconded. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

**Librarian’s Report**

Ms. Payne presented the monthly statistics. Circulation was down at Blue Eye and Crane compared to last year, but Galena was up. Patron visits were up at all branches over 2021. Ms. Evans asked if Ms. Payne had a way to compare stats to previous years, and she replied that she has the statistical sheets from several years back. Ms. Evans wondered where the computer stats were compared to pre-covid. Ms. Payne felt that there had been a major drop in computer usage prior to Covid, but that the usage was returning to 2019 levels. She also shared that the wi-fi gets used as much as the in-person computers and that accounts for some of the drop-off over the years.

Library Staff had their annual training day on May 9th. Ms. Payne brought members from the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Missouri Library Association in to speak. Mr. Scott asked what Intellectual Freedom is, and Ms. Payne explained that it is the idea that each person has the right to decide for themselves what they want to read. She shared that she had gone through the 3 hour training in 2019 and felt it was very good. She also shared that she felt the trainers did a good job of explaining to staff that intellectual freedom does not mean they have to compromise their own personal beliefs, only respect the rights of others in a professional setting.

MPLD is June 2nd & 3rd in Cape Girardeau and Ms. Payne plans to attend, since it is a bi-annual conference for public library directors. She also shared that she plans to submit a grant to fund attendance at the Association of Rural and Small Libraries conference in Chattanooga in September. Mr. Scott encouraged the board to consider funding the conference trip for Ms. Payne if the grant doesn’t get approved. Ms. Grayson made a motion to approve funding the trip to the ARSL conference, if the grant funding does not go through. Ms. Evans seconded. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

There were no public in attendance to address the library board.

The board discussed the newspaper article published regarding some books in the library collection. All board members felt the article was fairly balanced. Since no formal requests to remove the materials have been submitted, using the materials reconsideration form, no action needs to be taken at this time.

Ms. Payne requested a closed session to discuss personnel. Ms. Evans made a motion to go into closed session. Mr. Seaton seconded. All in favor.

**Pursuant to RSMO 610.021.3 the board duly voted to close the meeting.**

No decisions were made in closed session. Ms. Grayson voted to end the closed session. Ms. Evans seconded. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Grayson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Evans seconded. All in favor. **Meeting adjourned.**

The next meeting of the library board will be June 16, 2022 at 1 PM.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Payne