Stone County Library

Regular Board Meeting

January 17, 2025

Beginning Time: 1:07 PM

Ending Time: 2:00 PM

The Board of Trustees of the Stone County Library met in regular session on Thursday, January 17, 2025. Board President George Scott deferred the meeting to treasurer Angie Evans. Present were Dawne Gardner and Steve Seaton. No members of the public were present.

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

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The treasurer’s cash stands at $405,242.51 with building reserves at $116,105.12. Ms. Lewis reported that the funds are getting to the million-dollar mark. When that happens there will be more paperwork for the Ethics Commission and it will need to be signed by the board. Mr. Scott made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. Mr. Seaton seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried**.

**Friends of the Library:**

Ms. Lewis spoke on behalf of the FOTL requesting assistance from Mr. Scott to help them get the EIN paperwork set up. Mr. Scott agreed to meet with them next week. Ms. Lewis will relay that information to the FOTL president. **No motion needed.**

**Librarian’s Report:**

December was quiet. Crane’s item circulation numbers were significantly lower, while BE and Galena’s were slightly higher. End Of Year stats show lower patron visits across the board, with BE being the most significant. Ms. Lewis and the staff at BE will be meeting to brainstorm on more partnership opportunities within the community and revamping programs to try and turn those numbers around. Ms. Lewis would also like to reach out to the school about possibly erecting a bigger and more colorful sign to promote the library. Ms. Gardner advised that Ms. Lewis reach out to MoDot before placing an order.

Ms. Lewis informed the board that this year marks 10 years since the BE branch was opened. Mr. Scott suggested a celebration take place with an article in the paper. Ms. Lewis said that she has been having trouble getting support from the paper. Ms. Gardner said that she will reach out to contacts to try and rectify that. Ms. Lewis will, also, get a stats sheet together to see how the past 9 years have gone.

Ms. Lewis also reported that a new phone system has been installed that will allow calls to be transferred across all 3 branches. The only thing not completed regarding the installation is the faxing portion, but it should be done before the end of the month. Other upcoming projects are window tinting and a new roof in Galena and the staff is already planning SRP 2025.

**Crane**

Completed inventory in December.

**Galena**

Window tinting is scheduled for a Friday in March. The branch will be closed to the public, but it will be a workday for the staff. The roofers are also scheduled for March. Even though it might be loud the branch will remain open. Rewiring of ceiling fans will happen before the end of the month. This will allow them to run continually and not be tied in with the lights.

**Blue Eye**

Ms. Lewis and the staff at BE will be meeting to brainstorm on more partnership opportunities within the community and revamping programs to try and improve patron visits. Ms. Lewis will reach out to the school about possibly erecting a bigger and more colorful sign to promote the library.

**Holds Locker**

Mr. Scott suggested to Ms. Lewis to reach out to the Branson West city offices as a possible new location for the holds locker. Ms. Lewis then informed the board that our new courier has good contacts with Walmart and will be reaching out to them. Ms. Lewis will ask her to reach out to the city offices, too.

**Outreach**

Nothing to report at this time.

**No motion needed** on Librarian’s Report.

**Other Business**

Ms. Lewis presented the board with a bid to directly wire the ceiling fans. As of now the fans need to run continually per the advice of Knight Heating & Cooling. Since they are wired with the lights, the lights must stay on as well. Mr. Scott made the motion to accept the bid of $2300 from Stone Electric to directly wire the fans in Galena. Ms. Gardner seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Lewis made the board aware of four legislative bills in the house in the senate and they are as follows:

House Bill 95-actually states that libraries cannot ban books.

Senate Bill 159-This is a Reconsideration Policy, which is much like the Administrative Rule that we already have in place. The difference is that e-reading regulations have been added, and libraries are expected to follow. The problem is that 90% of e-reading is out of library’s control.

SB 483-Targets both public and school personnel were ever found guilty of supplying a minor with questionable materials. The public or school library could lose funding.

HB 557-requirement that library boards must be elected. Mr. Scott suggested to contact new senator, which Ms. Lewis has already spoken directly with him in December. He is very familiar with this bill. Ms. Lewis emphasized that if it were to pass it would be an extreme financial burden on smaller libraries.

No motion needed.

Next regular meeting: February 20th, 2025, at 1:00 pm.

Ms. Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Scott seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried**.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Lewis, Director