

Neillsville Public Library Board Meeting
Neillsville Public Library
409 Hewett Street
Neillsville, WI 54456
Tuesday, November 14, 2023
5:00 P.M.

Agenda:

Call to Order: 5 p.m. by Graeme Williams

Roll Call: Present: Graeme Williams, Mary Sladich, Maggie Gelhaus, Bill Neville, Peggy Buchda. Absent: Logan Grap, John Gaier. Others in Attendance: Janay Ziebell, Kathy Wegner

Report on Notice of Meeting: Posted

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion to file by Neville, 2nd Buchda. All aye.

Librarians' Reports:

Director Janay Ziebell – See attached report.

Children's Librarian Kathy Wegner – See attached report.

OLD BUSINESS

-Discuss/Action rotten tree removal—it's been cut, but what next? Tabled to Spring.

-Discuss/Action painting needs on exterior of building—Steve Travis quote

Director will attempt to get another quote and contract decision will be made at January 2024 meeting.

-Discuss/Action Interior lights installing LED

Quotes, trials, savings, incentives, rebates and focus on energy

Motion Gelhaus, 2nd Neville to authorize the Director to negotiate a contract for LED not to exceed \$5300 with installation to be completed within 90 days of agreement. All aye.

-WLA Conference – see attached reports.

-Storybook trail update on overhead sign and next book placement

The replica arch of the Grand Street Bridge was installed by Regan Barth. It is very impressive. The winter story will be inserted in the stations within a week.

-Clark Cnty Bd approved increased reimbursement to 85% of circ formula

See Director's report.

-office equipment update No new information.

-NEW BUSINESS

-Thanksgiving week and weekend hours – closed Thanksgiving day.

Bills and Vouchers: Motion to accept Neville, 2nd Buchda. All aye.

Balances and Accounts: Reviewed.

Next Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Communications: none

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Sladich, 2nd by Buchda. All Aye.

Director's Report November 2023

Story book trail: The entrance and metal archway designed to mimic the Grand Ave. Bridge archway at the south end of the trail is a work in progress from Kranzations metal fabricating company (Joe and Michelle Kranz). It will hopefully be installed yet this week! I hope to install the next book into the posts at the same time as the new archway entrance is installed so that we can have another "push-out" to market the project!

Clark County Board presentations for reimbursement of services: WVLS and the Clark County Libraries and CC Library Board have attended the June Clark County Board meeting, the finance and executive board committee at the County. After a glitch with a single county board supervisor writing in an amendment to not reimburse the libraries at 85% and take us back to 75%, we have succeeded to get more library supporters at the county board budget hearing this past week. The result: The vote to oppose reducing budgeted library funding back to 75% was 17-8 with two supervisors absent. We had tremendous support from the public with a 'standing room only' crowd. We've had great turn out of library supporters and representation along with presentation to the Clark County Board for their meetings. . So far so good! CC Libraries have been approved for an increase to the reimbursement of services from 75% to 85%! **The increase would bring the equivalent of about \$7,500 to the NPL once the division of the funds is made.**

WLA conference—Kathy and I both attended this conference. We were in Middleton for two nights. I attended sessions pertaining to managing people and also the state trends showing on our annual reports. Kathy attended Youth Services session among various other conference sessions. The accommodations and food was great, we had lots of time networking with other Librarians, and the exhibit/vendor hall is always full of goodies and information.

LED Lighting Project: Focus On Energy was here and Graeme and Maggie both attended as well. The focus on energy incentive quote and estimated savings is as follows: annual energy cost savings is \$691. They also quoted a project cost of \$5390 with a lighting incentive of \$1386 PLUS Xcel Energy would have a 75% bonus rebate of the total focus on energy rebate amount. I have had two electricians in and hope to have their quotes for the project by the meeting. A third company is yet to be found that is an Allied Contractor with focus on Energy.

Exterior Painting project: I have a quote from Steve Travis (the same contractor Regan uses with the city of Neillsville projects) and his quote for the painting of the chipping areas and concrete trim around the windows as well as power washing all the trim and fix joints by the windows is in. The quoted price includes all paint and labor.

Fire Alarm System Issues: we had a chirping coming from the fire alarm system. After calling the Neillsville Fire chief, finding the old building project documents and another electrician from Marshfield, it was determined I could just buy new batteries online. I believe this fire alarm system was installed in 1996 and the company that installed it from Marshfield no longer exists. So I learned a thing or two and just installed some new batteries myself. Grrr...it was a frustrating couple of days and took some extra time to dig deep and find out when it was installed, who installed it, how to repair it and if it needs any updating.

AUTHOR VISIT: On November 8th, we hosted a local Author Gary Foster. Gary is a native of Neillsville & retired Captain of the US Navy. He presented on his book "Notes from the Trenches"- A Musician's Journey through World War I. He spent time about the history and geography involved in WWI and then some about the letters and music his Grandfather Leo Foster, wrote while "in the Trenches". It was a Great time to have a military themed presentation/speaker right near Veteran's Day and especially a Neillsville Native! We had about 30 people in attendance and it was a great night of learning!

Children's Librarian Report November 2023

We went to the WLA conference in Middleton on October 24-26. The various sessions aren't as good as they used to be. It was interesting to talk to the various exhibitors and see what was new. It is always good to interact with other librarians. The venue this year was a lot nicer than last year.

We have story hour every other Friday with between 10 and 12 children attending. They enjoy hearing a story and making something they can take home and let's not forget the treat. It is fun to see them making a craft and using their imaginations. Most of the time there are crafts in the blue bin in the entryway for children to take home and make.

On October 17, three- and four-year-olds from St. John's School visited the library for a story and craft.

I have started to search for next year's Summer Library Reading Performers. It helps to start early so you can share the cost with other libraries. The performers are charging more this year, so really want to be able to share the cost with another library.