**PERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES October 12, 2023**

The Perry Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 8 a.m. Note: This meeting was held in-person at the Perry Public Library.

Board members Margaret Ruggle, Rosa Gonzalez, Mark Miller, Kendall Rathje, and Heather Karolus were present. Library Director Mary Murphy was also present.

Library Board President Mark Miller called the meeting to order.

Agenda – Heather Karolus moved to approve the agenda with Margaret Ruggle seconding the motion. MCU.

Minutes – Kendall Rathje moved to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2023 meeting and Heather Karolus seconded the motion. MCU.

Financial Statements – Gift Fund receipts and payments were presented with receipts totaling $7,920.62 and checks #6506 - # 6518, totaling $4048.60. The City of Perry Library Fund Status Report was reviewed. Margaret Ruggle moved to approve the financial reports with Rosa Gonzalez seconding the motion. MCU.

Unfinished Business:

1. Library Roof – The Library roof does not need to be replaced. The gutters and downspouts need cleaning (and is done) and the building needs tuckpointing and recaulking of all openings (doors and windows). Please see the attached report.
2. Director Review – Board members who have not sent their comments to Board President Mark Miller need to email their comments to Mark Miller. Mark will then meet with Director Mary Murphy to discuss the review.

New Business:

1. FY 2022-2023 Annual Report – See attached.

Librarian’s Report:

An IDPH Community 5210 Grant was approved for the following projects:

* Iowa State University Extension and Outreach $400 – Canning Class on Oct 3rd from 6-7:30pm
* ~~Fareway $1,110 - PACES taste testing. - DONE~~
* ~~Amazon $1,559.40 - Walking Club - Fitnus Watches – Oct. 4~~~~th~~ ~~is first Walk Meeting.~~
* ~~Amazon $109.96 - PACES Demonstration Station - DONE~~
* ~~Eyeclick $8,500.00 - Beam Projector - DONE~~
* ~~Hulgan $7,999 - Bottle Fillers - DONE~~
* ~~Wiese Park Improvements Bid Award - $4600 – DONE~~

October Grab and Go Adult Craft – Free DIY Scrubbing Pad Pumpkin Craft Kit

Add some pizzazz to your fall decorations with these mini copper scrubbing pad pumpkins! Learn how to make these simple, inexpensive pumpkins that can be used as part of a centerpiece, fall apple crate décor, or as a little gift with your pumpkin spice bread. Come into the library for your own Grab and Go DIY Scrubbing Pad Pumpkin Craft Kit beginning October 1st. Adult patrons can bring home one Free DIY Scrubbing Pad Pumpkin Craft Kit from the Perry Public Library. This craft kit includes materials and instructions for making two mini pumpkins. This October Craft is free, courtesy of the Perry Public Library, and available while supplies last. For questions, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us or call 515-465-3569.

Perry Public Library Halloween Costume Exchange – October 1 – October 31

Have your little ghouls and goblins outgrown last year’s costumes? Are you looking for the perfect dress-up inspiration for this year’s Spooktacular? Do you have some costumes just waiting to be donated to a new home? Visit the Perry Public Library in October and participate in our annual Halloween Costume Exchange! Each donated youth costume that is clean and in good condition earns a coupon for a "new to you" costume. Anyone who donates a costume has the option to keep their coupon or turn it in for someone else to use. Costumes may be donated to the library from Sunday, October 1, through Tuesday, October 31. Coupons may be redeemed from Friday, October 20, through Tuesday, October 31. For questions, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us or call 515-465-3569.

Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum Presents: Perry Firefighter History Exhibit – October 3 through October 31

The Carnegie Library Museum will focus on Perry’s firefighter history this October with a special exhibit and a “Conversation With” program. All ages are welcome to view our display of firefighting equipment and gear, plus photographs and local history. We will also host an accompanying Conversation With…Two Generations of Perry Fireman on Thursday, October 19th from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The Perry Firefighter History Exhibit is free and open to the public. Carnegie Fall Library hours are as follows: Sunday and Monday closed, Tuesday-Wednesday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Thursday 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, and Friday-Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. For questions, call 515-465-7713 or visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us).

ISU Extension and Outreach Presents: Preserve the Taste of Summer 101 – Pressure and Hot Water Bath Canning, Dehydrating, and Freezing – October 3

Do you love that fresh garden produce, but have more than you can eat? Preserve it! It’s not difficult, but you need to follow safe methods. The Perry Public Library is excited to partner with the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach for a free class focused on pressure and hot water bath canning, dehydrating, and freezing food. On Tuesday, October 3 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm, participants will join presenter Tom Keinert to learn how to can, freeze, and dry foods safely at home. This class is free and meets in the Library Community Room. Registration is required. To register, visit the library or call 515-465-3569. For questions specific to the program, contact Tom Keinert at 515-721-7824.

Fall Toddler Time Tuesday Storytime (2 and 3-Year-Olds): Full STEAM Ahead – October 3, 10, 17, 24!

Toddler Time will go Full STEAM Ahead this fall as we incorporate literacy, science, math, and art into our storytimes! Benefits of incorporating STEAM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Art-Math) include encouraging creativity and innovation, developing problem-solving skills, enhancing resilience, and promoting lifelong learning. Plus, it’s just plain fun! Sensory bins, flannel boards, hands-on experiments, and crafts will help each little scientist learn more about the world around them. Toddler Time meets on Tuesdays from 10:30 am to 11:15 am. We will meet on October 3, 10, 17, and 24. This is a free program, but registration is required. To register, visit the library, go online at [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465-3569, or email [lpieper@perry.lib.ia.us](mailto:lpieper@perry.lib.ia.us).

Fun with Fours and Fives Wednesday Storytime (4 and 5-Year-Olds): Full STEAM Ahead – October 4, 18, 25

Fun with Fours and Fives will go Full STEAM Ahead this fall as we incorporate literacy, science, math, and art into our storytimes! Benefits of incorporating STEAM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Art-Math) include encouraging creativity and innovation, developing problem-solving skills, enhancing resilience, and promoting lifelong learning. Plus, it’s just plain fun! Hands-on experiments and crafts will help each little scientist learn more about the world around them. Fun With Fours and Fives meets on Wednesdays from 10:30 am to 11:15 am. We will meet on October 4, 18, and 25. This is a free program, but registration is required. To register, visit the library, go online at [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465-3569, or email [lpieper@perry.lib.ia.us](mailto:lpieper@perry.lib.ia.us).

Fall Wee Wonders Storytime Thursday (Birth to 24 Months): Full STEAM Ahead – October 5, 12, 19, 26!

Our fall Wee Wonders program starts up again in October. We meet from 10:30 am to 11:15 am on Thursdays through the first week of December. Wee Wonders is an early literacy lap-sit program for babies from birth through 24 months. We sing songs and rhymes, read simple books, do fingerplays, bounces, and incorporate motor skills with shakers and scarves. There is a period of social play at the end of each program. Each participating baby gets a free board book every time they come to the program. This is a free program, but registration is required. We will meet on October 5, 12, 19, and 26. To register, visit the library, go online at [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465-3569, or email [lpieper@perry.lib.ia.us](mailto:lpieper@perry.lib.ia.us).

Tween Zone: Clothespin Zombie Heads Craft – October 3

Tween Zone is a new program for "tweens," ages 8 through 12, from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm. on the FIRST Tuesday of the month. Miss Laura will have a craft for anyone interested, and participants can also tinker with our Maker Space Cart, play with our Beam projector, play board games, play with our Wii console, color coloring pages, or just sit and hang out. Tween Zone will meet on October 3 and this month’s craft will be clothespin zombie heads. This is a free activity and no registration is required. For more information, visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465.3569, or visit the library.

WOW! Wednesdays Robots (K-2nd Grades): Disappearing Ghosts Experiment and Maker Space Rubber Band Race Cars – October 4

WOW! Wednesdays are early-out STEM-related activity times for elementary students at the Library! Children in kindergarten through second grade are invited to attend WOW! Wednesdays Robots from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on the FIRST Wednesday of the month. For October 4, the Robots will be experimenting with Disappearing Ghosts and Maker Space Rubber Band Race Cars with Miss Laura. This fall, we are also excited to incorporate our new Maker Space Cart during WOW! Wednesdays! Kids can tinker around or participate in challenges to build things with items from the cart. Miss Laura will present a different science experiment each month, and there will be LEGOs, Snap Circuits, and other activities. This is a free activity and no registration is required. For more information, visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465.3569, or visit the library.

October Fresh Conversations with Aging Resources of Central Iowa: Food Safety – October 4

Fresh Conversations is a free nutrition and physical education program for ages 60+. The program offers practical tips and sensible solutions to everyday problems that get in the way of doing what most people want to do: eat well and live well! Fresh Conversations is also an opportunity to connect with other adults for a friendly group discussion. We will meet in October to discuss food safety, plus try a tasty recipe on Wednesday, October 4, from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm in the Perry Public Library Community Room. This is a monthly, free event held the first Wednesday of each month for ages 60+ and no registration is required. For more information, call the library at 515-465-3569 or visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us).

Chess at the Library – October 5, 12, 19, 26

Local Chess Instructor David Oliveira is partnering with the Perry Public Library to teach, mentor, and play chess with players of all ages and experience levels. Whether you are new to chess or looking for a challenging game, mark your Thursday evenings in October for Chess Instruction and Walk-in at the Library. Students, grades K-12, will meet from 4:30 to 5:30 pm, in the library Board Room. Chess players of all ages are then welcome to meet from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, also in the Board Room, for instruction or competition. David Oliveira leads the group meetings and also offers chess instruction by individual appointments as part of the library program. Call the library for more information or to arrange a time at 515-465-3569.

We Have Issues (YA Book Club for Everyone): *The Silence Between Us* by Alison Gervais – October 2

We Have Issues: A YA Book Club for Everyone is a fun, laid-back book club where we enjoy reading and discussing the often-dramatic world of YA literature. We love exploring timely issues and you don't have to be a teen/young adult to come. Our club meets every first Monday from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Library Community Room. The October 2nd selection is *The Silence Between Us* by Alison Gervais, a Best Teen Honor Book of 2020 featuring deaf teen Maya as she navigates a new life—and love. Interested adults and teens may join the group at any time, but registration is required. Books are available at the library for a small fee for registrants. Register online at www.perry.lib.ia.us, in person, or call the library for more information at 515-465-3569.

Quarterly Classics Book Club: *The Diary of a Nobody* by George and Weedon Grossmith – October 10

All are invited to join the Quarterly Classics Book Club for discussions of traditional and modern classics. The Quarterly Classics Book Club will meet Tuesday, October 10 to discuss *The Diary of a Nobody* by George and Weedon Grossmith at the Carnegie Library Museum from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This classic book follows the diary of London bank clerk Charles Pooter and “is a hilarious spoof and a perfectly pitched satire on late Victorian society.” Anyone interested may join the group at any time, but registration is required. Books are available at the library for registrants for a small fee. Register online at www.perry.lib.ia.us, in person, or call the library for more information at 515-465-3569.

WOW! Wednesdays Rockets (3rd-5th Grades): Flying Ghosts Experiment and Maker Space Rubber Band Race Cars – October 11

WOW! Wednesdays are early-out STEM-related activity times for elementary students at the Library! Children in third through fifth grade are invited to attend WOW! Wednesdays from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on the SECOND Wednesday of the month. For October 11, the Rockets will be experimenting with Flying Ghosts Experiment and Maker Space Rubber Band Race Cars with Miss Laura. This fall, we are also excited to incorporate our new Maker Space Cart during WOW! Wednesdays! Kids can tinker around or participate in challenges to build things with items from the cart. Miss Laura will present a different science experiment each month, and there will be LEGOs, Snap Circuits, and other activities. This is a free activity and no registration is required. For more information, visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465.3569, or visit the library.

Teen Boredom Busters – October 10

Teen Boredom Busters is a new drop-in program for teens in middle through high school. Come in anytime between 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm on the SECOND Tuesday of the month to tinker with our Maker Space Cart, play with our Beam projector, enjoy board games, play with our Wii console, color coloring pages, or just sit and hang out. Join us on October 10 and be sure to invite your friends! This is a free activity and no registration is required. For more information, visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465.3569, or visit the library.

No October Paper Crafting with Kathy or October Makerspace

While we won’t have our usual Paper Crafting with Kathy or Makerspace in October, the Friends of the Library WILL be hosting their amazing crafting fundraiser on October 28 instead.

Perry Public Library Annual Shred Event – October 14

The Perry Public Library will host its annual Shred Event for the public on Saturday, October 14, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The shredder truck will be located in the library south parking lot, accessible from Railroad Street. This event is an opportunity for Perry area residents to dispose of outdated personal documents, free of charge, in a safe, secure way. The Shred event is sponsored by the library and the City of Perry, and donations are accepted! For more information, visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465.3569, or visit the library.

Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum Presents: A Conversation With…Two Generations of Perry Firemen – October 19

The Carnegie Library Museum is pleased to welcome the Eiteman family to a roundtable discussion of their tenure as firemen in Perry. Frank, Fred, Brian, and Joel Eiteman will represent two generations of Perry firemen and discuss the biggest fires in Perry during their tenure, plus changes that have come about during their service. All are invited to join a roundtable “A Conversation With...” discussion with the Eitemans at the Carnegie Library Museum on Thursday, October 19 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This activity is free and open to the public. For questions, call 515-465-7713 or visit www.perry.lib.ia.us.

Salvation Army Mobile Services Center – October 16

The Salvation Army Mobile Services Center comes to the Perry Public Library on the 3rd Monday of each month from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm, with a break for lunch. This free service is located in the library south parking lot and helps with rent, utilities, gas, personal care items, food, and other information. For more specific information about services offered, contact the Salvation Army at 515-282-3599. This is a free service and no registration is required. For more information, visit [www.perry.lib.ia.us](http://www.perry.lib.ia.us), call 515-465.3569, or visit the library.

Monthly Book Club: *Not Me* by Michael Lavigne – October 17

October’s Monthly Book Club will read and discuss *Not Me* by Michael Lavigne. This debut novel features the “dramatic and surprising stories” of a father and son “through sixty years of uncertain memory, distorted history, and assumed identity.” Join the discussion on Tuesday, October 17, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Library Community Room. Everyone interested is invited to join the discussion, but registration is required. Register online at www.perry.lib.us, by phone at 515-465-3569, or in person. Books are available at the library for participants for a small fee. For more information, call Adult Service Librarian and discussion leader Mindy Farmer at 515-465-3569.

October Craft Club: Mini Felted Pumpkins – October 30

In October, patrons will design and stuff their own felt pumpkins and decorate them with felted stems and leaves. The October Craft Club will meet on Monday, October 30 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. All are welcome, but space is limited and registration is required. A $5 materials fee is due at the time of registration to reserve your spot. Please register by Monday, October 16. To register, visit the library. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us, call 515-465-3569, or ask a librarian.

Five Nights at Freddies Scavenger Hunt for Tweens and Teens - October 27 - October 31

Youth of all ages are invited to enter Freddy Fazbear's Pizza - if they dare - and use the clues to find security cameras, while avoiding Freddy and the other animatronic animals. Collect all of the cameras - be careful, some of them are fake! - and earn a treat! Five Nights at Freddy's is a popular video game series, and the movie will be released on October 27. Our Scavenger Hunt will be open from 10:00 am on Friday, October 27 until 8:00 pm on Tuesday, October 31. Visit the front desk to grab your scavenger hunt instructions, follow the clues, collect all the cameras, and earn a treat. This is a free activity and no registration is required. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us, call 515-465-3569, or ask a librarian.

Retirement Reception for Library Director Mary Murphy – October 27

The Perry Public Library will wish Library Director Mary Murphy a happy retirement and thank her for years of dedication to our community on Friday, October 27 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in the Library Community Room. The public is invited to join us in wishing Mary well and adding their thanks. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us, call 515-465-3569, or ask a librarian.

Perry Downtown Spooktacular at the Library – October 27

Perry’s littlest ghouls and goblins are invited to visit the library during the Perry Downtown Spooktacular on October 27. Stop by to say hello to our friendly librarians and bring home a brand-new book to enjoy! Enjoy a safe and fun Spooktacular in downtown Perry from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Friday, October 27.

Hobgoblin Hangout: Children's Halloween Party - October 31

Ghosts and goblins ages 2-11 are invited to our children's Halloween party: Hobgoblin Hangout on Tuesday, October 31 from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm in the Community Room! We will paint mini pumpkins, build, and decorate creepy graham cracker houses, and Miss Laura will tell spooky stories around a "campfire!” Costumes are welcome, but not required. This is a free activity for kids, ages birth to 11, and no registration is required. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us, call 515-465-3569, or ask a librarian.

Oh, My Gourd! Teen Halloween Party - October 31

Oh, My Gourd! It's the library's Halloween party for teens on Tuesday, October 31 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Community Room! We're going to decorate potion bottles, play games with tarot cards, and make zombie Barbies! There will, of course, be creepy snacks too. Wear your costume if you want! This is a free activity for teens, ages 12 to 18, and no registration is required. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us, call 515-465-3569, or ask a librarian.

The next normally scheduled meeting is on Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 8 a.m. in the library’s Community Room (aka the large meeting room). The public is always welcome.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Mary K. Murphy, Library Director