

## **PERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **July 11, 2024 Minutes**

The Perry Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

Board members Kendall Rathje, Margaret Ruggle, Rosa Gonzalez, Alissa Whitmore, and Heather Karolus were present. Friends' of the Library President Kathy Miller, Vice President Becky Reuter, and Library Director Misty VonBehren were also present.

Rosa Gonzalez 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 June 13, 2024 meeting and Heather Karolus seconded the motion. MCU.

Financial Statements – Gift Fund receipts and payments were presented with receipts from the period of June 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024, totaling \$3451.15, and checks #6614 - #6622, totaling \$2928.55. The City of Perry Library Fund Status Report and the June City of Perry Library Claims Report were reviewed. Heather Karolus moved to approve the financial reports with Margaret Ruggle seconding the motion. MCU.

#### **Old Business –**

- a. Library Board of Trustees: Alissa Whitmore was appointed to the Board of Trustees by Mayor Dirk Cavanaugh with the City Council approving the appointment at the June 28, 2024, Perry City Council Meeting.
- b. Contracting with Dawson, Iowa: we are waiting for the paperwork along with payment to be returned from the Dawson City Council.
- c. KidsFest Financial Review: The expenses of KidsFest totaled \$4794.95. The Gift Fund account funded \$4294.95, and the Friends of the Perry Public Library funded \$500.00. The library received a grant of \$1900.00 from the Bock Family Foundation Spring 2024 cycle to help with the expenses for this event.

#### **New Business –**

- a. The annual election of the board president was held with a motion from Heather Karolus and seconded by Margaret Ruggle to elect Rosa Gonzalez as Board President for July 2024 – June 2025. MCU
- b. Kendall Rathje informed the board that the Wiese Foundation awarded the Perry Public Library Foundation a total of \$40,000 for the fiscal year 2025. This is an increase of \$5000.00 from fiscal year 2024. Heather Karolus moved to allocate \$3300.00 each month from the \$40,000.00 with Margaret Ruggle seconding the motion. MCU

## Board Education:

- a. Review of Bylaws of the Perry Library Board of Trustees.

## Librarian Report:

The monthly statistics were shared during the meeting.

The Summer Library Programs for Adults, Teens, and Children started on June 1<sup>st</sup>. As of June 30, registration totals for each group are as follows:

- Adults: **220**
  - 2023 Registered: **94**
  - *+ Increase of 134%*
- Teens: **52**
  - 2023 Registered: **75**
  - *- Decrease of 31%*
- Children: **399** = 218 + 147 (PACES) + 34 (Perry Child Development Center)
  - 2023 Registered: **406**
  - *- Decrease of 2%*

Youth Services Librarian, Laura Pieper, returned to work on a full-time basis on July 3, 2024. She is still limited in her activities through the end of July. Kayla Rothmeyer will finish out the remaining summer programming for both Teens and Children. Kayla has been instrumental in carrying out our summer programming for Teens and Children. She is a rock star!

Beanstack is being used by several of our patrons for tracking. This software will be very valuable moving forward in implementing reading challenges throughout the year.

Beginning June 13<sup>th</sup>, Iowa PBS Education began partnering with the Perry Chamber of Commerce and Perry Public Library. Representatives from each organization will be at the Perry Farmers' Market every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 4p-7p. Iowa PBS will have reusable shopping bags, tons of kids' activities (and prizes), STEAM materials, and Perry Market Bucks. \$10 in Perry Market Bucks (along with a recipe of choice) will go to each child or family for fruit, vegetables, eggs, or honey, so the whole family can practice writing shopping lists, reading recipes, exchanging currency, and cooking a healthy summer recipe together. This program is funded through a national grant awarded to Iowa PBS.

Planning for RVTV has started and the library and recreation departments will be helping to facilitate and plan the youth activities. There are planned meetings each week on Wednesday mornings. The event will be on Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> (Labor Day). Currently, the plan is to have most of the festivities in front of the Hotel Pattee, along Railroad Street, and along Second Street. Rukkus will be the band for the evening entertainment. The planning committee is finalizing the youth events and activities to determine an overall budget and cost.

The Kodak Picture Kiosk has arrived at the library. On Tuesday, July 9, 2024, our maintenance superintendent, Nate along with our IT consultant, Mark installed new electrical and data

outlets for the kiosk. The hope is to have it up and operational by the beginning of next week. We have received numerous positive comments from the public.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

The next normally scheduled meeting is on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 8 a.m. in the library's Community Room. The public is always welcome.

Heather Karolus moved to close the meeting with Kendall Rathje seconding the motion.  
MCU

Respectfully submitted, Misty VonBehren, Library Director