**PERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES March 10, 2022**

The Perry Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 8 a.m. Note: This meeting was held in-person in the Community Room at the Perry Public Library.

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

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 February 10, 2022, meeting, and Rosa Gonzalez seconded. MCU.

Financial Statements – Gift Fund receipts and payments were presented with receipts totaling $2,357.95 and six checks, #6157 - #6172, totaling $3,437.05. The City of Perry Library Fund Status Report was reviewed. Heather Karolus moved to approve the financial reports with Margaret Ruggle seconding the motion. MCU.

Unfinished Business:

Library Capital Requests – It was announced at a recent Leadership meeting and at the City Council Meeting that all library capital requests were being funded.

Review of City of Perry Personnel Policy – Kendall Rathje moved that the Library Board of Trustee reviewed the City of Perry Personnel Policy as per the requirement of the Accreditation Standards of the State Library of Iowa with Heather Karolus seconding the motion. MCU.

New Business

Library Staff Retreat June 20, 2022 – Director Murphy presented the framework of Gino Wickman’s Entrepreneurial Operating System and how this would be the basis of a staff retreat. More details will be presented at the next Library Board Meeting.

Board Education – Discussion concerning Accreditation, Standards, and Funding.

Librarian’s Report:

Yearbook Digitization Project – The digitization has been done, the yearbooks are back to the library, and we have received the digitized copy of the yearbooks. The data base will be added to server when the IT Consultant Mark Kacmaryski comes in April.

The City of Perry Safety Committee has reorganized and will be creating a Quarterly Safety Award Program to recognize City of Perry Employees for exemplifying safety or going above and beyond to ensure safe practices are used.

The painting of the street level of the library is done. The lighter gray wall color reflects light and makes the inside of the library appear bigger.

The Solar Project is still slowly moving ahead. They are done with the solar array in the library south parking lot.

Director Murphy along with Abigail Chihak from Dallas County Health Department and Aubrey Alvarez of Eat Greater Des Moines presented a breakout session at the Community Food Systems, CFS Conference in West Des Moines on February 25, 2022. Our presentation was well received. A grant administrator from the Principal Foundation was in the audience and followed up afterwards about replicating our Food Rescue Program in other libraries.

March Events at PPL and HH@CLM

Chess Instruction/Open Play – March 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30 We will continue to offer space for Chess players to meet, as well as free instruction, on Wednesdays, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., in the library Community Room, on Saturdays, from 1:00-2:30 p.m., in the library Board Room, or by appointment with instructor David Oliveira.

*Read Across America* StoryWalk™ Storytime in the Park – March 5The month of March is National Reading Month, and March 2 is celebrated as National *Read Across America Day.* Established in 1998 by the National Education Association, this is a day that celebrates the joy and privilege of reading! Perry Public Library is partnering with ISU Extension and Outreach to participate in the *Read Across America* initiative with a special event on Saturday, March 5. Everyone is invited to come to a *Read Across America* Storywalk™ Storytime in the Park, at 10:15 a.m., Saturday, March 5, at the McCreary Recreation Center/Wiese Park. The featured story is *Sylvia’s Spinach/Las espinacas de Sylvia*, presented in both English and Spanish, and planned activities include the Storywalk™, spinach planting, and tasting!

Author/Book Talk with Beth Hoffman (*Bet the Farm*) – March 6 at 2 p.m., Sunday, in the Perry Public Library Community Room. Author Beth Hoffman left a successful career and life in San Francisco when she and her husband returned to Iowa in 2019 to run the family farm. In *Bet the Farm*, she highlights the struggles of beginning farmers. Come and hear her interesting story at this free event. Beth Hoffman was asked to talk to Farm Credit as an Outreach Book Discussion. They hosted a luncheon and after the Book/Author Talk, Kathy Lenz spoke of the work that the library is doing in Food Recovery and the plans to put milk and eggs in the Library refrigerator. They presented a $1,500 check to the Perry Public Library to start putting milk and eggs in the Library refrigerator.

*A Conversation With* … … Program Series – March 10 at 6 p.m. at the Carnegie Library Museum. Everyone is invited to attend a free program series with Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum called *A* *Conversation With*…, at 6:00 p.m., on second Thursdays, with the first event on Thursday, March 10. The programs feature a different Perry resident each month, and the first event features Perry Mayor John Andorf. Please join us for our first *Conversation With…* John Andorf!

The Perry Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a Chamber Coffee for Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum, at 8:00 a.m., Friday, March 11, in the newly re-opened Carnegie Library building.

Saturday Storytimes – March 12, 19, 26, from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m., in the library Community Room. Saturday March 12 and 26 are bi-lingual events!

March 14, 2022 is National Pi Day. Celebrate with us at our *Wi-Fi and Pie* mobile device help forum. Staff members will be on hand to introduce hoopla and Bridges/Overdrive to interested patrons and assist individuals in downloading free ebooks, audiobooks, and more onto their mobile devices. And, of course, pie! No registration needed. Walk in and get the help you need to start reading, listening, and watching the free books, audiobooks, TV shows, movies, and more available to you with your library card! There are no dumb questions, and everyone is welcome

Spring Break 2022 is March 14 through 18 for Perry Community Schools, and Perry Public Library is offering a variety of take-home Activity Kits to keep kids busy and entertained during the break, as well as a special event on Saint Patrick’s Day! *Yarn Monsters* and *Yarn-Wrapped Initials*, *Pool Noodle Aliens and Spiders*, *Lego Vehicles*, *Sticker, and Paint Sheet* kits are all available for kids, *free*. Get them while they last! And, on Thursday, March 17, plan to come to the St. Patrick’s Day Family Party, at 6:30 p.m., in the library Community Room. A treasure hunt, games, and goodies are all part of the fun.

Monthly Book Club: *The Spanish Daughter* by Lorena Hughes – March 15 at 1:00 p.m., on Tuesday, March 15, in the library Community Room. The featured title is *The Spanish Daughter* by Lorena Hughes.

3rd Sunday Program: *Century & Heritage Farms* (HH@ CLM) – March 20 at 2 p.m. Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum will host a series of programs on the third Sunday of the month, beginning Sunday, March 20. The programs will cover a variety of topics of interest to our community. The inaugural 3rd Sunday Program will be *Century & Heritage Farms,* at 2:00 p.m., at the Carnegie Library Museum. Our guests are local Heritage and Century farmers, who will share their 150-year and 100-year farm histories. Next month: *Traditional and Modern Quilting*, with an opportunity to learn how to quilt! Join us monthly as we explore and share at these free programs.

Kites, flowers, bees, birds, and other *Spring Things* will be the focus of a new six-week Storytime unit for two age groups at Perry Public library, beginning March 22. The *Toddler Time* group (ages 18 months – 3 Years) will meet on Tuesdays, and the *Fun for Fours & Fives* group will meet on Wednesdays, from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m., in the library Community Room. Stories, songs, age-appropriate activities, crafts, and a snack will be included in the programs. Storytimes are free, but registration is required.

Craft Club: *Button Trees* – March 28 at 6:00 p.m., Monday, in the library Community Room. The featured craft will be *Button Trees.* All interested crafters are invited to participate, but registration is required, as well as a $5 materials fee, by the Monday, March 21 deadline to guarantee your supplies.

*Re-Awakening History by Telling Our Own Stories* Program Series (HH@CLM) – March 29

The State Historical Society of Iowa, Inc., and Iowa Arts Council are funding a monthly program series offered by Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum, from March to August 2022, called *Re-Awakening History by Telling Our Own Stories*. A unique program will be offered each month, focusing on our Perry Community, showcasing stories about life in a small Midwestern town and its influences on family, education, work, faith, and loss. The first program is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, at 6:00 p.m., at the Carnegie Library Museum.

The Mystery Book Club will meet for the March 2022 events on Monday and Wednesday, March 28-30. All interested readers are invited to join Library Director Mary Murphy for a Zoom book discussion of selected title *The Summoning: A Novel* by J. P. Smith, at 7:00 p.m., March 28, and join the virtual Author Talk with J. P. Smith at 6:00 p.m. CT, on Wednesday, March 30. Both events are free, but registration is required. Books are available at the library for participants. Call the library for more information: 515-465-3569.

2022 All Iowa Reads Community-Wide Book Discussion Announced – April 19

Perry Public Library announces the 2022 All Iowa Reads community-wide book discussion, scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 19, in the Library’s Community Room. The selected title is *The Butterfly Effect* by Rachel Mans McKenny. The annual All Iowa Reads event is intended to create an opportunity for people in a community to gather to discuss a single book with an Iowa or Midwest connection. Guest facilitator George Minot of Iowa City will lead the discussion.

The next normally scheduled meeting is on Thursday, April 14, 2022, 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