

PERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 14, 2022

The Perry Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, April 14, 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 was also present.

Board President Mark Miller called the meeting to order.

Agenda – Kendall Rathje moved to approve the agenda with Margaret Ruggle seconding the motion. MCU.

Minutes – Margaret Ruggle moved to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2022, meeting, and Kendall Rathje seconded. MCU.

Financial Statements – Gift Fund receipts and payments were presented with receipts totaling \$11,173.69 and 16 checks, #6153 - #6188, totaling \$4,876.19. The City of Perry Library Fund Status Report was reviewed. Heather Karolus moved to approve the financial reports with Rosa Gonzalez seconding the motion. MCU.

Unfinished Business:

Library Staff Retreat, June 20, 2022 – Kendall Rathje moved to approve the Perry Public Library closing for Monday, June 20, 2022 to release all staff for an offsite retreat and fund the offsite retreat, with Heather Karolus seconding. MCU.

New Business

Rotary Membership – Heather Karolus moved to approve the pay for the Library Director's Rotary membership with Margaret Ruggle seconding the motion. MCU.

Board Education – Succession Planning was discussed at length along with the upcoming retirement of the Children's Librarian.

Librarian's Report:

Mission:

Enabling our community to thrive
by offering lifelong opportunities
to connect, learn, and create.

The KidsFest (June 4) plans are coming along. Attractions have been booked: bubbles, foam cannon, balloon twister, dunk tank, and petting zoo. Activities are being planned: Rotary with the putting green, HH@CLM activities include quill writing, PPL is planning an activity to make boats and evaluate their floatability and a duck pond, and more. The Perry Volunteer Fire Department are grilling their signature pork tenderloins for sandwiches and hot dogs. Donations for the event include pork loins from Tyson, bottles of water from Fareway, and hamburger and hot dog buns from HyVee along with their meat department cutting up the pork loins. We will be purchasing single serving bags of chips and single serving granola bars for the rest of lunch. Lunch is \$1 and will be a Perry Volunteer Fire Department fundraiser. They will receive all the proceeds from the lunch revenue. KDLS will be bringing one of their vans and broadcasting live from the event. HyVee is looking into bring their KidFit Motorhome to the event. Library Director Mary Murphy received notice that we will be receiving funding for this event.

Summer Reading Program has started to be planned in detail with the paperwork, website registration, and promotion. A bilingual flier will be sent out in the May water bill followed by PSAs to all media outlets along with social media blasts. The theme this year is "Oceans of Possibilities" which lends itself to ocean-themed activities and possibilities-themed activities.

The Solar Project is moving ahead. The contractor has completed installation of all panels across the multiple locations. Jacob Arends, the project oversight manager reported that the contractor is 'currently wrapping up the electrical connections at City Hall and the new pavilion next to the bike path. Once that is completed the only locations left to tie in are the police and fire station. You may still see crews at each location as they wrap up some final items, but the infrastructure is complete. They are anticipating the connection of police and fire electrical for the week of April 18th which is the last location to get tied in with Alliant Energy. At the parking lot locations, the gutters have been installed but they are still working to get downspouts installed. They are nearing the end of a long but beneficial project that will offset electrical expenses for many city facilities.'

Director Murphy had to have two tires fixed because screws created a leak in them with a third tire hosting a screw but no leak yet. Construction debris from the solar panel project has been found (screws, washers, plastic parts, small bolts) in and around the solar canopies. Jacob mentioned the screws and miscellaneous parts appearing around the canopies and their crews will be circling around to each location to review.

The Friends of the Perry Public Library are partnering with Perry Greenhouse & Supply to hold a Spring Floral Basket Fundraiser, from Friday, April 1, to Saturday, May 21, at Perry Greenhouse & Supply. To support the fundraiser, you may purchase a special voucher for \$23 to purchase a 10" flower basket. With each discount voucher purchased, the Friends receive a portion of the sale price, all which benefits the Perry Public Library and its services. If you want to buy a bigger basket or a bush the voucher can be used and then the price difference would be paid.

The Master Gardeners with Iowa State Extension and Outreach recently established the Dallas County Seed Library, a project developed to distribute open pollinated heirloom seeds, free, to Dallas County gardeners from participating host sites. Perry Public Library is now host to a Seed Library, housed in a special collection display containing a variety of seeds for patrons to take and use in their home gardens. The project helps preserve heirloom seeds and native plants appropriate for cultivation in our area. To view a list of available seeds, visit: <HTTPS://bit.ly/seedslist>.

Saturday Storytimes will continue at Perry Public Library in April, from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m., in the library Community Room. Join us on Saturdays for stories *and more*.

Perry Public Library will celebrate the American Library Association's National Library Week (April 4-9) with special displays, overdue library fines amnesty, prize-drawings, and giveaways. The 2022 Theme is *Connect With Your Library*.

Storytimes are underway at Perry Public Library for three age groups. The *Toddler Time* group meets Tuesdays, April 5, 12, 19, and 26, and the *Fun for 4s & 5s* group meets Wednesdays, April 6, 13, 20, and 27, all from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m., in the library Community Room. Storytimes at the library are always free, but registration is required.

Wee Wonders recorded Storytimes for babies (infants – 18 months) are posted on the library website twice monthly. With a focus on early literacy, participants receive a free board book for each session! Complete details to access the Storytimes are available at registration. New sessions: April 7, 21.

The April meeting of the Perry Public Library Quarterly Classics Book Club will be held at 7:00 p.m., April 12, at the Carnegie Library Museum. The selected title for discussion is *The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas. Newcomers are always welcome to join the group at any time.

Everyone is invited to attend a free Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum program, Thursday, April 14, at 4:30 p.m. *Making Natural Egg Dye* is a free program that focuses on historical methods of coloring eggs – just in time for Easter. Join Trista Cohea at the Carnegie Library Museum for this fun and timely program.

Everyone is invited to attend the Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum program, *A Conversation With...*, at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, April 14, at the Carnegie Library Museum. We welcome Perry Police Chief Eric Vaughn as our guest for the month of April. Come meet Chief Vaughn, learn more about him, and enjoy the conversation at this free event.

Perry Public Library will be closed on Sunday, April 17, for Easter. Reminder to patrons: the book drops are always open!

Perry Public Library will participate in the 2022 *All Iowa Reads* event with a community-wide book discussion, at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 19, in the Library Community Room. The selected title is *The Butterfly Effect* by Rachel Mans McKenny. The annual *All Iowa Reads* event is an occasion for people in the same community to gather to discuss a single book with an Iowa or Midwestern theme. Guest facilitator George Minot of Iowa City will lead this year's discussion. This is a free event, and everyone is invited to participate. Books will be available for participants to check out or to purchase for a nominal price at the library. The Perry Public Library Monthly Book Club will participate in the 2022 *All Iowa Reads* book discussion for their April meeting, at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 19, in the library Community Room.

Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum will host a Third Sunday program called *Traditional and Modern Quilting*, at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 24, offered by Hometown Heritage @ the Carnegie Library Museum. This program is for quilters and non-quilters alike, with an opportunity for beginning quilters to learn the craft!

The Perry Public Library Craft Club will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 25, in the library Community Room. The featured craft will be hand-made Mother's Day Cards. Please join us to create and socialize at

any meeting, but registration and a \$5 materials fee are required by the deadline, Monday, April 18, to guarantee your supplies.

Interested mystery readers are invited to join the virtual Mystery Book Club for the April 2022 events. The featured title for the month is *In My Dreams I Hold a Knife* by Ashley Winstead. The Zoom book discussion with Library Director Mary Murphy will be held Monday, April 25, at 7:00 p.m., and the virtual Author Talk with Ashley Winstead will take place Wednesday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m., CT. Both events are free, but registration is required.

Re-Awakening History by Telling Our Own Stories Program Series (HH@CLM) – April 26

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*. The April program, scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, at 6:00 p.m., at Perry High School, will be presented by Perry Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lynsi Pasutti, who will talk about Education in Perry. A panel discussion and tour of the History Corridor will be featured during the free program.

Chess Open Play will continue at the library in April with a dedicated hour for students in K-12th grades, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., on Wednesdays, in the library Community Room. Open Play for all ages is now scheduled for 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, also in the Community Room, as well as on Saturdays, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., in the library Board Room. Everyone interested is invited to play Chess at the library or to schedule individual instruction with David Oliveira.

A new book club for readers of Young Adult books will hold its first meeting at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 4, in the Perry Public Library Community Room. The *Never Too Old for YA Book Club* plans to meet on the first Wednesday of each month, with a variety of old and new titles selected from the Young Adult genre. The featured book for May is *What I Carry* by Jennifer Longo, which is also the 2022 *All Iowa Reads Young Adult* selected title. All adult and teen readers of Young Adult books are invited to participate in the monthly book discussions, but registration is required.

The next normally scheduled meeting is on Thursday, May 12, 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