

PERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 9, 2024 Minutes

The Perry Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

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

Library Board President Mark Miller called the meeting to order.

Agenda – Kendal Rathje moved to approve the agenda with Rosa Gonzalez seconding the motion. MCU.

Minutes – Margaret Ruggle moved to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2024 meeting and Rosa Gonzalez seconded the motion. MCU.

Financial Statements – Gift Fund receipts and payments were presented with receipts from the period of April 11, 2024 – May 7, 2024 totaling \$3003.05 and checks #6582 - #6598, totaling \$6563.16. The City of Perry Library Fund Status Report and the April City of Perry Library Claims Report were reviewed. Heather Karolus moved to approve the financial reports with Rosa Gonzalez seconding the motion. MCU.

New Business – Board member terms were reviewed. Two trustee terms [Mark Miller and Heather Karolus] are set to expire at the end of the fiscal year [June 30, 2024]. It was discussed to promote to the community the opportunity to serve on the board. Director VonBehren will promote it both internally and externally to gather a wide range of potential candidates. New terms will begin on July 1, 2024. The process is for the mayor to appoint a trustee to a 4-year term with the city council approval of the appointment. Trustees must live within Perry, according to the ordinance.

Board Education:

- a. Chapter 1 of the Library Trustee's Handbook: First Things First / Recruit New Trustees was the topic of board education this month.

Librarian Report:

The monthly statistics will be shared during the meeting.

On Wednesday, April 17, Director VonBehren and Museum Librarian Candi Coffin attended the Hometown Heritage biannual meeting. Our goal will be to partner with additional entities and organizations to offer exhibits of a historical nature. The group is also seeking nominations for the 2024 inductee for the Wall of Witnesses in Soumas Court. Deadline for nominations is May 15, 2024. Forms are available online, at the Perry Public Library, and the Carnegie Library Museum.

Library Staff are finalizing plans for the summer program Adventure Begins at Your Library and KidsFest which will be held on Saturday June 1st. We will experience a staffing shortage at the end of May and beginning of June due to health reasons.

Current library staff will pick up additional duties relating to summer library programming. In addition, the Friends of the Library will be providing volunteers for KidsFest.

On Thursday May 2, Director VonBehren attended the quarterly offsite city leadership meeting. This offers the opportunity for city department heads and administration to meet and concentrate on defining goals for the next quarter as a city. These meetings are always valuable and very productive in nature. It allows better communication and collaborations between city departments. The next meeting will be in August.

The week of May 6, the Public Works Department tore out and poured a new section of sidewalk and curb on the south side of the library. The funds for this project were allocated in the FY24 Capitals.

On Wednesday May 22, there will be a city staff meeting for all employees to provide an update on city projects. These are held on a quarterly basis.

May Programming and Events:

May Grab and Go Adult Craft Kit – Free DIY Yarn Bird

Ever wonder what to do with that leftover yarn? Perhaps you have a little here and a little there left over from larger projects? This month's Grab and Go DIY craft is a fun way to create a delightful yarn bird using any colors of yarn you have on hand! Adult patrons can bring home one Free May Grab and Go Adult Craft Kit from the Perry Public Library. This craft kit includes materials and instructions for one DIY Yarn Bird. This May Grab and Go 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.

May Grab and Go Teen Craft Kit – Free DIY Upcycled Craft Eggs

Teens, 12 to 18, are invited to come into the library during the month of May to pick up a Free Grab and Go Teen Craft Kit! This month's kit includes supplies to make your own acorns out of upcycled craft eggs. Teen patrons can bring home one Free May Grab and Go Teen Craft Kit from the Perry Public Library. This craft kit includes materials and instructions for one DIY Upcycled Craft Eggs Kit. This May Grab and Go 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.

Novel-Teas Book Match: A Monthly Program for Adults

We think a good book and a delicious cup of tea are the perfect pairing. With our Adult Novel-Teas Book Match program, participants can sign up each month to receive an individualized book recommendation, with a complementary tea pairing. Simply register, and complete the personalized Book Match Form by May 15, and our Adult Services Librarian, Mindy, will help you find your next book, while our tea enthusiast, Trista, will select your tea. May Book Matches will be available for patrons to pick up beginning Monday, June 3rd. Patrons must be 18+ to participate and spots are limited. To register and complete your survey, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us for an online form or visit the library for a paper version. This is a free program. For questions, visit our website or call 515-465-3569.

Fresh Conversations with Aging Resources of Central Iowa: Carbohydrates: Whole and Refined – May 1

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 to discuss carbohydrates, plus try a tasty recipe on Wednesday, May 1, 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 adults ages 60+, and no registration is required. For more information, call the library at 515-465-3569 or visit www.perry.lib.ia.us.

Chess Club at the Library – May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Are you interested in learning how to play chess? Do you already know how to play, but are looking for some local players to challenge? Could you use some tips and practice to improve your skill level? 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 April for chess instruction and walk-in play at the Library. Students, grades K-12, will meet from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm, in the library Board Room. Chess players of all ages are then welcome to meet from 5:30 pm 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. This is a free program and no registration is required. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.us, call 515-465-3569, or come to the library.

Use the Force Scavenger Hunt for Children – May 3 to May 10

Get ready for Star Wars Day, May 4th, with one of our themed scavenger hunts! Our Use the Force Scavenger Hunt is fun for children ages 5-10. Search for Star Wars characters in the Children's Area and win a prize! This is a free program and no registration is required. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.us, call 515-465-3569, or come to the library.

Seeking Skywalker Tween and Teen Scavenger Hunt – May 3 to May 10

Get ready for Star Wars Day May 4th with one of our themed scavenger hunts! Our Seeking Skywalker Scavenger Hunt offers a fun challenge for tweens and teens ages 11 to 18. Follow the clues from all three trilogies and win a prize! This is a free program and no registration is required. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.us, call 515-465-3569, or come to the library.

We Have Issues (YA Book Club for Everyone): *If He Had Been With Me* by Laura Nowlin – May 6

This May, the We Have Issues Book Club is tackling a TikTok sensation! Readers are raving about this contemporary YA novel that explores romance and friendship. The We Have Issues Book Club meets the first Monday of each month from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Library Board Room and you don't have to be a teen/young adult to come. Join

discussion leader Jessica on May 6 to discuss this book that's taking TikTok by storm. Interested adults and teens may join the group for free at any time and no registration is required. Books may be purchased in advance for a small fee from the library or borrowed with your Perry Public Library card. For more information, go to www.perry.lib.ia.us, visit the library, or call 515-465-3569.

Paper Crafting with Kathy: Waterfall Card – May 18

Paper crafters asked and we listened! For our May Paper Crafting with Kathy, she'll be demonstrating how to create a fun, detailed waterfall card. These cards combine different tabs to make secret messages or images appear when you pull on a paper tab, creating a cool waterfall effect. Kathy Miller leads this series of monthly how-to workshops featuring different paper crafting techniques and creative designs for making greeting cards. The craft series will be held one Saturday each month. We will meet on Saturday, May 18, in the Library Community Room from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. The class is free, but space is limited and registration is required. Registration closes on May 18. All materials will be provided, but participants are welcome to bring their own supplies. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.ia.us, call 515-465-3569, or ask a librarian.

Saturday Crafternoons – May 18

Are you looking for a quiet, community space to craft? Then, we have the perfect Saturday event for you! The Perry Public Library welcomes crafters and do-it-yourselfers to our dedicated makerspace – now following Paper Crafting with Kathy. You bring your ideas and supplies and we'll supply the crafting space. Saturday Crafternoons last from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm in the Library Community Room and offer a free community space to work on projects in a comfortable environment. Plan your next work session for Saturday, May 18, at the library. Tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and everyone is invited. No reservations and no charge! For more information, go to www.perry.lib.ia.us, visit the library, or call 515-465-3569.

Summer Library Program Registration – Adults, Teens, and Kids – Begins May 20

Are you ready for a summer full of adventure? Mark your calendars because registration for the Perry Public Library Summer Library Program – available to adults, teens, and children – begins May 20. This summer, “Adventure Begins at Your Library: La Aventura Comienza en tu Biblioteca” and we can't wait for you to join us! Registering is free and easy. Simply visit www.perry.lib.ia.us or come into the library to register adults, teens, and kids. Reading, activities, prizes, adventures...we have it all at the Perry Public Library this summer! For more information, visit www.perry.lib.us, call 515-465-3569, or come to the library.

Salvation Army Services – May 20

The Salvation Army Support Services will come to the Perry Public Library on the third Monday of the month from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, with a break for lunch. The Mobile Service Center is currently out of commission, but a Salvation Army representative will continue to come to the library to meet with community members in our Study Room. This free service, provided by the Salvation Army, will be available in the Library Study Room. The Salvation Army helps with rent, utilities, gas, personal care items, food, and other information. For more specific information about services offered, contact the

Salvation Army directly at 515-282-3599. This is a free service and no registration is required

Monthly Book Club: *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer – May 21

May invites readers to join botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer, a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, as she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. We will meet on Tuesday, May 21, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Library Community Room to discuss this month's book selection. Everyone interested is invited to join the discussion and participation is free. Books may be purchased in advance for a small fee from the library or borrowed with your Perry Public Library card. For more information, visit www.perry.lib.us, call 515-465-3569, or come to the library.

Hometown Heritage at the Carnegie Library Museum Presents: Fashion Through the Ages Exhibit – April 23 – June 8

Step back in time into the world of fashion history at the Carnegie Library Museum from April 23 through June 8. Displays will feature antique clothing, vintage paper dolls, and more with fashion from the Renaissance, Victorian Times, Colonial Times, the French Revolutions, and beyond. Discover which years feature the most outrageous fashions and which countries held the most fashion influence during different periods. The Carnegie Library hours are as follows: Sunday and Monday – Closed. Tuesday and Wednesday – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Thursday – 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. Friday and Saturday – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. For questions, call 515-465-7713 or visit www.perry.lib.ia.us.

Kidsfest – June 1

Come celebrate summer with the annual Perry Public Library KidsFest! This exciting, family-friendly, budget-friendly event will kick-off the Summer Library Program. Join us Saturday, June 1 from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm for this can't-miss event. We offer many age-appropriate activities for children like the Foam Blaster, creating bubbles, PBS Kids STEAM stations, balloon twister, family photos, dunk tank, giant Connect Four game, and a petting zoo. There is truly something fun for everyone!

The Perry Volunteer Fire Department will also cook pork loin sandwiches and hot dogs. HyVee donates the hamburger and hotdog buns and Fareway donates the bottles of water. Also included in the lunch are a bag of chips and a cookie. The Fire Department sells lunch for \$1 and this is a fundraiser for them. This event is free and no registration is required. Thank you to our sponsors who make this event possible: Tyson, The City of Perry, Hometown Heritage, Hyvee, The Bock Family Foundation, PBS Kids, The Friends of the Perry Public Library, and Fareway! For more information, go to www.perry.lib.ia.us, visit the library, or call the library for more information at 515-465-3569.

The next normally scheduled meeting is on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 8 a.m. in the library's Community Room. The public is always welcome.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Misty VonBehren, Library Director