

DEWITT DISTRICT LIBRARY (DDL)
13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt, Michigan 48820

February 13, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Byars at 5:01 pm.

Members Present: Brian Byars, Bill Fullmer (arrived 5:10), Wayne Summers, Matt Boeve, Lysne Tait, Tony Spagnuolo (left at 5:36) and Paul Perpich.

Members Absent: none

Also Present: Jennifer Balcom, Director, and Melissa Demong Shafer, FOL.

B. Approval of Agenda: Perpich moved to approve the agenda and Tait second. Motion passed unanimous.

C. Consent Agenda: Perpich moved to approve the consent agenda. Tait second. Motion approved unanimous.

1. January Treasurer's Report
2. January board minutes.
2. Correspondence.

D. Public Comment: No comments.

E. Reports:

1. Directors Report - The Director introduced and explained a new presentation format of monthly stat data, to better enable comparing with prior year data. She also gave an update on recent staff professional development events and outreach activities.

2. Friends of the Library - Melissa indicated the FOL had initiated a fund raising project following last years painted chairs event. This year it will be painted folding tables.

3. Woodlands Library Coop Report - Summers indicated the January meeting was cancelled.

F. Pending Business:

1. Patron suggestions - Patron used the suggestion sheet to say thank you to staff member Susan for finding her ipad and getting it to her that evening.

G. New Business :

1. Fine Free Library Report - The Director developed a report on *the use of fine-free policy in libraries across the country. There are many that have gone in this direction and report beneficial outcomes. This was an information item and will come back to the board in a month or two for action.*

2. Library Response to Statement of Concern on Library Material - A patron had expressed concern regarding a book that is part of a popular series in the teen collection (13-18 y.o.). That particular book/story includes some pretty explicit sex scenes, and while tastefully done caused concern. The patron wasn't seeking removal, but locating in "young adult" section or adding a warning label. The director spoke with the patron and expressed understanding of the concern and noted that warnings or some such markings on the book is not consistent with library policy as it would put the library in a position of screening books for content which is not feasible. The Director sent the patron a letter recognizing her concern, pertinent library policies, published reviews of the book, and indicating the process for appealing to the board if desired if she desired.

3. Strategic Planning Timeline - The Director met with Sharon Castle of Non Profit Network and indicated they will do 3 focus groups, each from a different segment of the community. That information will be used for the board to work with in setting a vision, goals objectives and so on at a retreat to be scheduled later.

4. Proposed Library legislation to amend Library Privacy Act - SB 611 would make it possible for libraries to be able to work with police in situations where a crime may have occurred in or against the library. This amendment is supported by libraries as currently libraries are forbidden from providing information.

5. Tiny Pantry Request - The library received a request to put a "tiny pantry" on the library premiss. Such pantries are stocked with cleaning supplies and other household items and people can take them as needed. The library recognized the value of such a service and also had concerns about abuses on . The request was denied and alternatives offered.

H. Public Comments: Perpich presented an opportunity for the Library to take over a project that entails providing a unique Student Dictionary to each 3rd Grader in DeWitt Schools on an annual basis. The project was initiated years ago by DeWitt Kiwanis Club which doesn't exist any more. The cost is around \$800 annually. The Friends of the Library indicated this would be a suitable project for them to take on and continue.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:10PM having completed the agenda.

Next Regular Meetings: March 12, 2020, 5:00 PM at the DDL Annex.
 April 9, 2020, 5:00 PM at the DDL Annex.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Fullmer, Secretary -- Wayne Summers took initial notes as Fullmer was 10 minutes late getting to the meeting.