

Williamstown Library Board Meeting

March 14, 2023

Board members: Tami Trumble, Alice Trumble, Jean Farmer, Jody Hunt, Sue Billington, Cherie Tietjen, Terry DeMassey and Kate Dorn and Cindy Arquette.

Director: Laurie Hale

Meeting called to order at 6:09 PM. Absent: Tami Trumble and Terry DeMassey

Agenda was approved with Cindy Arquette and Alice Trumble making motions; motion carried.

Public comment period: no members of the public present. Trustee Jean Farmer reported on the COVID Funeral Assistance Program which was effective as of January 2020 and may offer monetary assistance of up to \$9000.00 retroactively. It was agreed that this is a program that may assist our patrons and something we can make them aware of.

Minutes of previous meeting from February 14, 2023 were sent via email to board members prior to meeting and accepted. Motions by Alice Trumble and Sue Billington; motion carried.

Financial report for previous month was sent to board members via email and discussed. Report was accepted. Motion by Cherie Tietjen and Kate Dorn; motion carried.

Director's Report present by Laurie Hale:

*Polaris training for new library system did not provide the depth of coverage required for daily tasks performed at the Library. Laurie has requested additional training focused on our usage.

*Laurie has been busy assisting our Amish neighbors in applying for the STAR program.

*March Book Club meeting was moved to March 15th 2023.

*The preschool children will be joining the weekly Wednesday Story Time event on March 22nd, 2023.

*Our next Floral Arrangement class with instructor Robin of Designs of Elegance in Pulaski will be held at the Library on Saturday April 1st, 2023.

*A barn quilt painting class will be offered on Saturday May 6th from 11:00AM – 3:00PM.

*Nancy Raab has requested to use the Library for a quilting class.

*Bev Ripka has requested to use the Library for a knitting and crocheting group.

*54 of the November/December new books have been checked out as of Saturday March 11th, 2023. There was discussion of changing our practice of restricting books that are

designated as new. Currently they stay in New status for 2 months which does not allow them to be loaned to other libraries in that time period. We will be reducing that to 1 month in New status to allow them to be circulated rather than sit on the shelves. The exception will be the most popular books which will stay in New status for two months to give our own patrons the chance to read them first.

Discussion at the conclusion of the Director's report was very positive. The programs offered bring a wide variety of people into our Library and encourages more books to be taken out and a stronger support of the Library.

Old Business

The new shelves are installed providing room for more books. The stairs have been repaired to reinforce them.

For security reasons we are changing from a debit card to a credit card. Jody Hunt and Kate Dorn each provided information on options that are available; Kate, Jody and Laurie will review the options and make a decision.

New Business

Bev Ripka is weeding out hardcover books as they are reorganized on the shelves.

To encourage people to read newer books that have never been taken out the idea of offering an incentive was discussed. Possibly when a patron took out one of these books their name would be put into a drawing for a local business gift certificate, with drawings to be held every 2 or 3 months. The idea was well received as it could increase circulation.

Senator Walczyk of the 49th District would like to visit our Library. He replaced retired Senator Patty Ritchie. Laurie will call him to set up a visit.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM with motions made by Cherie Tietjen and Kate Dorn; motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 11th 2023 at 6:00PM in the Library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Arquette

for Terry DeMassey