

Mendon City Library Board Meeting

Date: January 10, 2018

Attendees

Library board members: Katie Child, Lisa Robins, Ryan Yonk, Rick Shelton, Millie Smith. Friends of the Mendon Library: Paul Willie. City council liaison: Karole Sorensen. Library directors: Maren Benson, Brittany Benson.

Minutes from previous meeting

Lisa Robins put forth a motion to approve the minutes from the board meeting on October 4, 2017, and Katie Child seconded the motion. All in attendance voted to approve the minutes.

Update on the library

Librarians Brittany Benson and Maren Benson updated the board on the library.

Maren reported that circulations, interlibrary loans, and number of holds placed are increasing. The library averages 1,400 checkouts per month with the children's section being the most popular area. The number of circulations began increasing during the summer months and has remained steady. To count the number of people using the library, Maren will pick a typical week without special programming and then tally every person who comes to the library. Karole said she would update the city council on the library's progress.

Brittany and Maren plan to host one major activity per month in addition to smaller activities and story time. The Harry Potter activity was very successful with about 50 people attending. In October Stephan Bevan read his new book, *Quiet as a Church Mouse*, to a gathering of twenty-eight people. Maren was happy with the attendance at the book reading because the activity took place on a Saturday morning.

Brittany and Maren described their plans for upcoming activities, which include a break-out activity, a pirate-themed activity, and an activity using the nine-ball kit. Brittany would like to plan more how-to activities for teens.

Maren received a \$500 grant from the Walmart in Brigham City, which will be used to buy and host break-out activities. The premise behind a break-out activity is that participants answer trivia questions to unlock a box. The activity helps participants with critical thinking skills. Maren will continue to apply for Walmart grants quarterly.

Brittany will post activities to the Mendon Library Facebook page as well as Mendon 411. Petersboro has a Facebook group called Petersboro Community to which the library could also post activities.

Budget update 2017-2018

The board reviewed the library budget report compiled by Rick Shelton for the current fiscal year. The board compared the budgeted amount to the amount spent thus far. In general, spending this year is less than the budgeted amount with the exception of the book category. Maren made a decision to spend much of the book category during the first half of the year to freshen up the collection and keep patrons interested. In the future, Maren said she plans to spend approximately \$500 per month to meet the yearly budgeted amount of \$6000 in new books.

To meet the yearly operating budget of \$12000, the library board will need to raise approximately \$4800 or transfer money from a grant. Ryan suggested not holding too fast to the budgeted amounts this year. The board will revise the budgeted amounts as needed in April. For the first year, the board felt the budget is working well overall. Next year's budget will be easier now that a spending history exists.

RAPZ and other grants

Katie will apply for a RAPZ grant again in March. She also will apply to other charitable organizations, such as the Sorensen Foundation and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Maren will continue to apply to rural grants. Ryan volunteered to help Maren with the rural grants.

Volunteer staffing

Katie has the name of four potential volunteers to fill the two-hour gap from 2 to 4 pm. Katie and Paul will continue to work on the list of available volunteers. Paul would like to maintain a long list of potential volunteers who are available to help with activities and cover library shifts. Ryan said he would be to fill in when needed if he is available. Paul suggested that the librarians keep a list of regular patrons because they would make great volunteers.

Meeting adjourned

The meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 8 pm in the reading room of the library.

Friends of the Library

Date: January 10, 2018

Attendees

Library board members: Katie Child, Lisa Robins, Ryan Yonk, Rick Shelton, Millie Smith. Friends of the Mendon Library: Paul Willie. City council liaison: Karole Sorensen. Library directors: Maren Benson, Brittany Benson.

Motion to open the meeting

Ryan motioned to open the Friends of the Library meeting, and all approved the motion.

Piano cavalcade

Paul would like to organize another piano cavalcade similar to last year's program with possibly a patriotic theme. The event will coincide with city's 24th of July program. Paul is looking for someone to chair the event and other committee members. Paul suggested Jeri Cheney as a possible chairperson. Possible performers and/or committee members are Ryan Cheney, Laura Morgan and her string students, Norma Myers (possible May Day medley), Jim Buist, Sierra Lyon, Jamiel Martin, Paula Watkins, Shelley Jackson. Katie and Paul will put together a committee by the end of January.

Paul said the Friends organization should have a goal to raise a few thousand dollars per year to help with funding the library.

Maren will hold a book sale during the 24th of July celebration. She has been collecting books for a future sale and will increase the price of the books from last year.

Ryan encouraged the librarians to apply for a grant from the Max and Victoria Dreyfus foundation. He said they give out grants up to \$200,000 and have supported small libraries in the past.

<https://www.mvdreyfusfoundation.org>

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