

MEETING MINUTES  
Hillsdale Community Library Board of Trustees  
July 11, 2024

- I. Call to Order: 5:01pm
- II. Roll Call
  - A. All Present: George Allen (President), Rebekah Dobski (Library Director), Karen Hill (Trustee), Laura Negus (Secretary), Joshua Paladino (Vice President), Stephanie Stockford (Trustee)
  - B. Visitors to the meeting: Linda Fogarty, C.J. Toncray
- III. Approval of [Agenda](#)
  - A. Allen moved to add item A. Patron Confidentiality Policy under IX. New Business. Stockford seconded the motion. In discussion Hill voiced that she thought Dobski should add the item to New Business next meeting after the board discusses at this meeting the communication from Joseph Hendee, and after Dobski has more time to research such policies. Allen countered that placing the item in New Business today would not create the policy this meeting, but only allow the board to discuss the policy, including asking the director to research a policy. The motion carried 4-1 with Allen, Negus, Paladino, and Stockford voting yea and Hill nay.
  - B. Hill moved to add letter from Joseph Hendee to VII. Communications. Stockford seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.
  - C. Stockford moved to approve the agenda as amended. Negus seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.
- IV. Approval of Minutes - [Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2024](#). Hill moved to approve the minutes as presented. Stockford seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0 with Negus abstaining from her vote.
- V. Visitor Comments - No comments
- VI. Director's Report
  - A. Various comments from director Dobski:
    - 1. Dobski pointed out that her report included annual statistics next to the monthly statistics, since June closed the fiscal year.
    - 2. Circulation is up across the board, probably due to Summer Reading program.
    - 3. Dobski is working on sharing an items-purchased list with the board on a regular basis, every month or two months approximately.

4. Dobski and Heidi are working on revamping the after-school crafting program to boost attendance; Bingo was a successful alternative recently.
- B. [Balance Sheet](#) - Dobski pointed out that the prepaid expenses line includes Johnson fire alarms - she was re-invoiced after paying and is investigating what is happening with this redundancy.
  - C. [Revenue and Expenditure Report](#)-
    1. Dobski pointed out a few low revenues and explained differences in operation with meeting rooms, Amazon sales, etc. Allen pointed out that the state grant and penal fines still have not arrived.

## VII. Communications

- A. Friends of the Library
  1. The friends proudly sponsored Abraham Lincoln's visit for the summer reading program.
- B. Letter from Joseph Hendee - Allen read Mr. Hendee's letter to those present. Dobski explained that she was present for the phone call referenced, but only after it was partially in progress. She heard Sierra trying to calm the patron Mr. Hendee on the phone. The law enforcement officer also spoke with Mr. Hendee on the phone before the call was eventually terminated. Hill conversed briefly via email with Hendee, after he sent his letter to all board members, to tell him thank you for the communication and let him know the board would discuss it. Stockford received a call from Hendee after the incident at the library and shared that Hendee was out of the state at the time which contributed to his agitation.

## VIII. Old Business

- A. Building Issues -
  1. Dobski contacted Elias McConnell about a quote on door repair. She has not received the quote yet. She plans to reach out to Camden Dice of Dice Roofing (and construction) for a quote.
- B. Dobski reached out to Hillsdale township regarding their contract with the library. The contact has not yet responded. Dobski plans to ask them to sign another contract in order to have it on file before revisiting possible changes.

## IX. New Business

- A. Patron Confidentiality Policy - Allen asked if there is currently a spelled out policy for patron confidentiality; Dobski says there is not, although it is somewhat implicitly stated in other parts of the handbook. ALA/MCL explains why confidentiality was maintained in the incident regarding Mr. Hendee and his daughter. Dobski asked other libraries about their confidentiality policies; two of them cited MCL 397.601-397.605, "The Library Privacy Act". Allen suggests that the board respond to Mr. Hendee since he contacted us directly, possibly cc-ing Dobski to loop her into the conversation. The Board suggested Dobski create a confidentiality policy that works best for HCL staff.

- X. Board Comments - Stockford shared a snippet for an old journal revealing that she and two friends were planning to protest not being allowed on the teen advisory board of the library when they were sixth graders.
  
- XI. Adjournment- Hill moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm, Stockford seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.