

HARTFORD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees

June 16, 2021 minutes of the regular meeting, submitted by Jen Holst, recording secretary:

Meeting was called to order by President Michael Tabor.

ROLL CALL: Members April Bartlett, Dave Bowman, Camille Mealy, Kelli Ruble, Judy Sodders, Michael Tabor, and Kay Waters; Director Michele Risinger; Admin Jen Holst

MINUTES were approved as presented upon a motion by April, seconded by Judy; carried 7-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

1. Funds holding strong coming into the halfway mark; first distribution of 2021 is expected at end of June.
2. City gifted funds toward Nature Play Park structures.

CIRCULATION REPORT: Limited service due to construction has led to lower numbers, but e-materials are popular.

PROGRAMS:

1. Amy's outdoor story time was well-attended today. This will continue throughout the summer in the shaded part of the lawn outside.
2. Planning to resume the youth book club following completion of the summer reading program and construction.
3. Summer reading starts at the end of June; registration has opened in-house and online.
4. Michele has put more money towards the 2021 Summer Reading program this year, since we did little in-person programming in 2020.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Notes in addition to the attached report:

1. HVAC is mostly done – installed and insulated. A minor issue in the meeting room was fixed. The unit for the Children's Department has not yet arrived.
2. The flower bed and retaining wall outside the handicap entrance was demolished today. Quality of work was fine, but plants were bull-dozed rather than saved as Michele had thought she'd arranged. (The normal field manager and agent were not here today, but rather two workers new to the scene.)
3. Foundation for the addition was also dug day of meeting.
4. Reasons for park projects going through state approval were re-capped. Have not yet officially received consent from the state to go ahead with building the outdoor classroom.
5. Climbing structure previously installed but currently in storage will be rebuilt and repurposed with a rocket ship design and with proper state approval.
6. Staff are managing well, even when short-staffed.

ACTION ITEMS – none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Electronic attendance to board meetings when NOT in a pandemic: The state law has been updated to reflect requirement that any voting members must be both heard and seen for electronic votes. This would require a change in policy and by-laws if the board wishes to pursue. A sample policy was requested to be sent to members for review; tabled.
2. Employee compensation for budget planning: Michele feels the need to increase pay to get current employees to a better tier as well as attract future competent employees in order to stay competitive in the geographical area. One part-time position in the near future and two of the full-time positions in four to five years will need to be filled. Michael noted that in working with the numbers, he could make it work, but only if shrinking the incremental increases. Michele will send Michael and Dave her ideas for increasing staff pay, as well as a copy of the Actual Revenue report after our June 30th property tax disbursement.

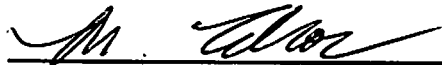
CLAIMS & CHECKS

Claims were presented in the amount of \$20,680.54 – Citizens and \$74,131.12 – Via. After review by the board, Judy moved to approve the payment of claims; Dave seconded, motion carried 7-0.

Being no further business to come before the board, meeting adjourned.

The next REGULAR board meeting will be July 21, 2021 at the Blackford County Historical Society at 5 p.m.

Approved this 21st day of July, 2021:



Kay Peters

Camille Nealy

David A. Bowen

