

Bemidji Public Library Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Present: Sheri Brumback, Nancy Erickson, Deb Graves, Joyce Siegert, Heidi Johnson, Lauree Bahr, Stephen Pflieger, Deb Rossman

Absent: Cyndi Fenske

Deb Graves chaired the meeting since Deb Rossman was at another meeting and would be arriving late to this one.

I. Approval of March minutes. Joyce Siegert moved to accept minutes as written. Seconded by Lauree Bahr.

II. Manager's report

A. Financial report: From board funds, \$180 was paid out for having the book sale books hauled to storage. \$91 was paid to the storage facility for one month.

B. Usage statistics: for March 2019:

Customer count: 14,968.

Checkouts: 13,170

13 programs for children with 154 attending

3 adult programs with 49 attending

6 special library events with 145 attending

34 meetings in the meeting room with a total of 232 in attendance at the various events.

C. News: Interviews were to be held this week for the position of part-time custodian.

D. Upcoming programs and events.

April 9 – Ted Talk by Keith Winter

April 16 – Young Adult Book Club

April 24 – Pints to Pages @ Bemidji Brewing

April 30 – Family movie: *Rise of the Guardians*.

III. Old business

A. Book sale 2019. Plans for this summer's sale are moving along at a steady pace. It was suggested that, for the last day (cleanup), members of the Community Resource Committee be asked if they would like to pick out books from those that are left. Employees from the jail come every year but there are usually enough books to include other organizations if they are interested.

The down payment for use of the church this summer had not been paid by the city as of this meeting even though the form was turned in in late January.

IV. New business

A. Library book sale 2020. Evangelical Free Church notified Joyce that applications for use of the gym at the church in July 2020 are starting to come in. They wanted us to know so that if we plan to apply for next year, we would have the opportunity to do it early. Steve Pflieger made a motion to apply for July 13-17, 2020. Seconded by Heidi Johnson.

B. Library disturbances and trespass forms. A discussion about the attempted assault of a library employee and the action taken by authorities brought out serious concern about how these things happen and what can be done to prevent them in the future. Council representative Nancy Erickson asked about how often trespass forms are given and the effect of using them. The board is concerned about the safety of library

patrons and staff as well as the repeated use of city law enforcement, fire department personnel, and ambulance services.

C. Deb Rossman brought up the movie, *The Public*, filmed in the Cincinnati Public Library and featuring the plight of homeless people, with different perspectives from those involved in the story.

V. Kitchigami Regional Library Report – Nancy Erickson. Interviews are being held for the KRL Director position in preparation for a retirement. Ten applied and interviews will be held with three applicants on April 17. \$1,000 was allocated to each applicant for travel expenses. Branch managers participated in interviews. The KRL board also interviewed the candidates.

VI. Friends of the Bemidji Public Library report – Terry Thomas handed out copies of the 2018 Annual Report of Finances and Activities as presented to the Friends on April 10, 2019. This group sponsors many projects, diligently runs the Red Door Bookstore, and keeps careful account of all finances. Their total donation to the library was \$8,589.13 but they also donated to other activities and projects carried on throughout the year. We applaud their efforts and considerable time that they donate to the Bemidji Public Library.

Adjournment: Joyce Siegert moved to adjourn. Seconded by Deb Graves.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 14 at 5:00 p.m.