

Carthage Public Library District
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 13, 2023

President John Dittmer called the regular meeting to order at 4:33pm. Also present were Sarah Talley, Andy Bastert, Vickie Livingston, and Director Amy Gee. Rebecca Eagan joined the meeting at 4:44pm. Rose Fisher, Donna Tracy, and Board Member Emeritus Angie Perry were absent.

Andy made a motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting. Sarah seconded and the motion carried.

Financial Reports

- The payroll transfer posted in March rather than February so the final numbers look a little different than usual. All was reconciled by March 5th.
- Amy noted that some of the utilities (gas and electric) and postage may end up over budget for the year.
- The bank made a donation to cover the annual fee on our bank card (See line 17 Other: Contingency).
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Director's Report

- Amy discussed the invoice from Full Speed, along with updates on the wifi situation. Printing from patron mobile devices is still only available on the main wifi network, not the guest one.
- The possibility of new printers was discussed as a solution to the printing.
- Amy will reach out to JR Parn about the access point he previously set up.
- The shared hallway will be getting a new drop ceiling and lighting.
- RAILS has a new website (<https://railslibraries.org/>) for anyone interested.
- There is an IL bill regarding book bans. It would bring the process in line with the American Libraries Bill of Rights guidelines.
- Carthage Middle School chose the library as the recipient of a recent fundraiser. Amy will visit CMS for a photo and a thank you.

Committee Reports

- Friends of the Library had a very successful Pi Day sale. Sold a total of 45 pies
- Foundation – no report

New Business

“The Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act” is included in the March packets. According to a new state law, all local governments that impose a tax must form a committee with community members to determine how efficient the local government body is, and what could be improved.

- The board discussed what this actually means for us.
- Decided to coordinate with the next Friends of the Library meeting. An additional meeting will be held in April, immediately following the regular board meeting.

- Currently it is unclear exactly what this new law means for libraries, and how it can/should be implemented.

Library Card Policy

- The current policy language will be updated to include “non-resident student” and “non-resident disabled veteran or spouse”.
- This impacts Illini West HS students, particularly Dallas City students who don’t have a city library.
- LaHarpe doesn’t charge for non-resident card either, so there is no potential for income loss
- The committee determined a student ID is sufficient

Sarah motioned to accept proposed changes. Rebecca seconded. The motion carried.

Wifi Policy

- Discussion was held on the wifi and internet usage policies, and how they may be updated.
- Amy will edit the document with proposed changes to #3, 6, 8 & 14 and bring it to the board for a formal vote in April.

Plans for New Building

- An email was shared from Mark Shaffer at the IL state library
- The bid history and apprenticeship costs were discussed, along with how we might be able to circumvent the requirements.
- Amy will reach out to Eric Icenogle to see if he has any experience in this sort of situation or has any colleagues who might.
- Capital campaign update – we reached our \$25,000 goal this period! It was also noted the architect fees have gone up, due to the building cost increase. Currently just under \$200,000, with \$136,000+ paid already. Current estimate is \$4.5 million total. We have ~\$3 million available. If we max out all of our capital, and bank loan potential, we could reach \$3.5 million.

Fundraising efforts

- Next quarter – possibly a “sponsor the square foot for \$500”
- Trivia Night – Andy will talk to some people about the Golf Course trivia night and how profitable it was.
- A fish fry was suggested as well for fall, likely October. Discussion included recent successes with this type of fundraiser, partnering with the Eagles Club, etc.

Andy made a motion to adjourn; Sarah seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

- Vickie Livingston