

RICE LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES – MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF
Tuesday, Feb 13th, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
Rice Lake Public Library
2 E. Marshall St., Rice Lake, WI 54868

Members Present: Melissa Kozma, Abbey Fischer, Amanda Morey, Chris Fitzgerald, Gina Sookiayak, Jane Thompson, Marsha Scherz and Bun Hanson.

Members Absent: Bun Hanson.

Others Present: Library Director Rachel Thomas

Call to order: Amanda Morey called the meeting to order at 4:00.

Public Appearances: None

Approval of minutes of the January 2024 meeting: A motion was made to Gina Sookiayak to approve the minutes from the January 2024 Board of Trustees meeting. Seconded by Chris Fitzgerald. Motion carried.

Review and approval of bills from January 2024: Bills were reviewed and found to be in order. Director Thomas shared that the library will be trying out Baker & Taylor for DVD orders. Using Baker and Taylor is the same price, but the process is a much smoother system than Midwest Tapes. A motion was made by Gina Sookiayak to approve the bills for January 2024 and seconded by Marsha Scherz. Roll call vote. Voting for: Amanda Morey, Jane Thompson, Melissa Kozma, Abbey Fischer, Chris Fitzgerald, and Gina Sookiayak. Marsha Scherz. Voting against: none. Motion carried.

Review of financial statements from January 2024: Director Thomas reported that the budget is right on track.

Statistics from January 2024: The stats for January compared to last year January 2023, showed an increase of 33%. The number of visitors had an average of 32 patron visits per hour, with an average of 308 patrons per day, and 8,746 physical items were checked out during the month. Storytimes were enjoyed with 316 participants for the month. January was a busy month: 1,000 Books 8, Makerspace Teen 71 & Adult 3, Puzzle 16, Whiteboard 18, Scavenger Hunt 144. Explore and Create 43. See the Reader 19, Board in the Library 19, Pokemon Trainer Club 47, Book Club 12, Chess Heads 22, Sit'n Knit 7, Adult Craft 25, Barron County Take Action 22, FOL Annual Meeting 16, Lego Club 28 and Northwoods Student Tech Help 4.

Total Programming Attendance 832

Computer usage 646

New additional patrons of 92
Meeting room 120
New items 337
Outstanding Library Outreach 123

Review of Director's Report: Director Thomas shared that we had well-attended programs for January. The Winter reading program that started Jan 15 thru March 15 was off to a great start. The new See the Reader Club was off to a great start with kids and parents. Pokemon and the Hot Wheels Storytime were storytime favorites.

We have a few new upcoming programs: The Fellowship program from the Islands of Brilliance, Afternoon Movie and Chocolate tasting, Tween Yoga, Superhero storytime, Coffee and Coloring, and a presentation by Professor Kent Syverson about Geology of the Ice Age Trail.

Outreach Report: Community Outreach will be at the Multi-Agency Resource Event (MARE) at the Cedar Mall. Library Staff will bring take-home craft kits for kids, library cards, and books to check out. Our new Outreach Coordinator Lindy Liedl will be at this event to greet everyone from different agencies and make new connections with other agencies in Barron County.

Library Legislative Day was attended by Director Thomas. An introduction to the day started with a greeting from Governor Evers. The day continued with a meeting with Representative Armstrong, and Senator Quinn's staff. Brochures with information about the Rice Lake Library, 2023 year at a glance handout were given with an invite to visit.

Train Table Donation: A donation was made from a young library patron, Carol. She did a bake sale to raise money for a new Train Table and brand-new train pieces.

Media: Our library was recently featured in REALiving magazine with an article about the family portrait program the library offered last fall. Our hometown star Kenny Bednarek's new Youtube series called "Road to Gold" also features the Rice Lake Public Library in its first episode of the series.

Friends of the Library Report: Melissa Kozma reported that the Friends group needs books for the Book Nook in the Library. Melissa reported that the Book Nook generates an average of \$300 a month. Also, the Play and Learn space is being built, this space will be upstairs in the children's play center. Friends group will be sending out mailings to remind & encourage membership.

Discussion: An agreement was made to schedule our board meetings to start at 4:30, as the time will work best for most board members. The meeting start time may change when summer break starts. A motion was made by Gina Sookiayak to approve the new start time of 4:30. Seconded by Abbey Fischer. Motion carried.

Comments: Director Thomas reported that our new Outreach Coordinator is Lindy Liedl. The Board is excited to congratulate Lindy as she will enhance our presence and contact in our community.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Gina Sookiayak to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Marsha Scherz.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12th, 2024 at 4:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jane M. Thompson.