

Meeting Minutes – Cameron Library Board – January 27, 2025

Present: Char Tubbs, Judy Erickson, Wanda Johansen, Kathy Krug, Denise Paddock, Jeremy Tepaske, and Dawn Ayers.

Minutes from the November 25 meeting were reviewed. Char moved to accept the minutes with a second by Kathy.

Finance Report

No change to the checking account balance: \$5,785.76. We did pay \$500 for Thursday night's music program, but the Friends group reimbursed that amount.

Copies & faxes for November 26 through January 27 totaled \$44.55. IFLS issued a check for \$47.87 to us for item replacement costs paid through e-commerce. These are public monies that go to the Village.

The budget comparison still has some lag time on the credit card charges that need to come out of the 2024 budget.

Expenditures

December expenditures: Credit Card, \$320.61 for books from Amazon; Dept of Admin, \$600 for T-1 line.

Char moved to accept the December, 2024 expenditures with a second by Wanda.

January expenditures: Peter Krzyzaniak, \$500 for January 25 music event out of the Library checking account and reimbursed by the Friends group; Baker & Taylor, \$126.93 for books; \$113.94, EO Johnson for copier contract (didn't know we had a maintenance contract with them until after budgeting. The copier was a hand-me-down from Village Hall, expense taken out of Supplies); Credit Card, \$228.03 for Amazon supplies and games (out of books), IFLS Library System, \$6,252 for annual shared maintenance (cost of being part of the MORE consortium); Inga Witscher: Around the Farm Table, \$679.20 (the Friends have offered to pay \$600 for that program).

Wanda moved to accept the January, 2025 expenditures with a second by Judy.

Activities:

3,506 items circulated in November/December, 1,797 items were borrowed from other libraries, 1,293 items lent to other libraries, 7 new patrons registered, 179 items added to the collection, 755 wireless users, 806 electronic check-outs and 476 website visits.

Thursday's music event had 32 attendees.

On Saturday, February 22 at 11am Inga Witscher will prepare a seasonally inspired recipe, and share nostalgic stories from her life on the farm as well as her experiences filming PBS' Around the Farm Table.

A patron had pizza from Dominoes delivered to the library on Friday for people to enjoy after school. 10 people participated.

Dawn has been cataloging new items, Deb and Elizabeth have been processing to move new items out to patrons. Most of them are checked out immediately; all of them have been checked out at this point.

The book displays at the circulation desk are still receiving lots of attention. Books are displayed according to a theme of the month determined by Elizabeth. January was "Historical Fiction;" February is "Love to Read" month.

In February we will offer "blind date with a book. A selection of books will be presented wrapped in brown paper, so patrons reveal the title and topic after check-out.

Annual report opened at the end of last week, so Dawn is working on this.

The Summer Reading Program kick-off event and finale have both been scheduled and booked.

Dawn was able to attend the Friends meeting this month; she also attended Directors' Council in January.

Dawn brought up an issue that the Directors' Council is discussing for Library Board informative purposes, and to communicate her stance on the topics of challenged materials at one of our MORE libraries. A compromise was made between the board and the director of this other MORE library to attach "prejudicial" stickers on specific books to indicate LGBTQ content. It came to the Directors' Council in the form of Circulation Policy. Dawn is opposed to both options discussed at the Council meeting -withholding access to shared resources, in

this case, books, and denying circulation to patrons if the materials that have been identified with the sticker arrive at our library upon patron request. Regardless of Dawn's personal opinion about the content of these materials, she believes that "policing" patron materials is a form of censorship that may not remain limited to the specific items under consideration. She pointed out that patrons that have taken the special step to order these items from another library are probably very aware of the content or topic of the book; a sticker will likely not stop them from reading it. Directors' Council did not vote on this item; it remains under consideration pending further discussion.

Facility Report

There was some discussion regarding new locks for the building. If it will save the Village unnecessary expenditure, locks on the library side may not have to be changed. The library is not having the issues of missing or stolen items that the Seniors seem to be experiencing. Dawn did talk to David Ebner about this. Kathy brought up the library's missing dedication plaques that were displayed by the entrance sconces. Dawn agrees that this is odd and should be kept in mind; at this point it seems isolated and did happen some time ago at a time that electrical work was being done on those sconces.

Old Business

Jeremy moved to approve the 2025 Holiday Closures with a second by Wanda. Holiday Closures are as follows:

January 1, New Year's Day

April 18 & 19: Good Friday; Easter Weekend

May 24 & 26: Memorial Day Weekend; Memorial Day

July 4 & 5: Independence Day; Independence Day Weekend

August 30 & September 1: Labor Day; Labor Day Weekend

November 27, 28, 29: Thanksgiving; Thanksgiving Weekend

December 24 & 25: Christmas Eve; Christmas Day

New Business

Next agenda will include Annual Report presentation.

Denise will be absent from our next meeting.

Char moved to adjourn with a second by Judy.

Next meeting, Monday, February 24, 5:30p.m. at the Library/Community Center.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Ayers.