

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

February 15, 2021

Virtual meeting using Zoom

The Board of Trustees of the Dodgeville Public Library met Monday, February 15, 2021, using Zoom for a virtual meeting online.

Present: Vanderloo, Howard, Tremelling, Rowan, Weber, McDonald via phone, Stangel; Carol Murphy, library staff.

Vanderloo called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. and, there being no objection, declared the meeting duly posted. Agenda for this meeting was declared approved and Minutes of the January meeting were declared approved as emailed to members. There were no objections.

Old Business:

a. COVID-19 Adjustments. Stangel said that she had to answer questions from the State about services. She said that the physical library was closed entirely to the public for a total of 6 weeks, 4 weeks in the early spring because of the shut-down and 2 weeks because staff had to quarantine. She said the library was never closed completely but was always able to provide limited services. In 2020 they provided 11 weeks of standard services, 35 weeks limited and 6 with staff only in the building. She said the annex will add more opportunity to serve patrons.

b. Outreach. The annex is open. Ken is the new hire who is working with both maintenance and front desk. (McDonald joined the meeting) Murphy said the set-up at the library annex is good. As far as Ridgeway is concerned, they attended one committee meeting recently. The building is being used, with the Farmers Market starting up. They asked when the library can open, and Stangel said the library needs to be in the room a month prior to opening to set everything up.

c. Library Building Project. Nothing new.

New Business:

Annual Report: Stangel reviewed some of the statistics. She said this year they had 1200 hours of less staffing. The door count is increasing now. The web site usage is down, because it is not being used as much inside the library, but access from outside is up. Decker asked if we can tell how many people are using the Wi-Fi every month, and Stangel said that those numbers can be determined. Wi-Fi access has been expanded outside to reach the block around the library. Stangel said that they are trying to calculate reference numbers for the report, so they are working to compile e-mail, Instagram and Facebook contacts, etc.

Stangel then went through the list of questions on the report relating to whether the Dodgeville Public Library is in compliance with state requirements:

- Is the library established under s. 43.52,3, or 7?
- Is the library free for the use of inhabitants?
- Does the library's board membership comply with statutory requirements?
- Does the library board have exclusive control of funds?
- Is the library director present at least 10 hours per week while the library is open?
- Does the library board supervise the administration of the library?
- Is the library authorized to participate in your library system?

- Has the library maintained a written agreement to participate in the library system, interlibrary loan (ILL), and provide "same services"?
- Is the head librarian certified at the appropriate grade level?
- Is the library open to the public an average of at least 20 hours per week?
- Does the library spend at least \$2,500 on library materials?

All questions could be answered “yes.”

Another question asked if SWLS is meeting the needs of our library. Stangel reviewed changes at SWLS that have resulted in even better service. There is more tech staffing now plus the addition of Lakeshore for technology assistance has been very good. They are helping set up the annex and a staff member at SWLS set up a cataloging app that has been very helpful.

Stangel asked that we pass a motion to answer the question: Is Southwest Wisconsin Library System providing effective leadership and adequately meeting the needs of the Dodgeville Public Library? Decker moved that we agree that SWLS is providing effective leadership and meeting the needs of the DPL. Motion seconded by Rowen. Motion carried, no negative vote.

Librarian’s report:

Stangel said that Overdrive now has magazines again. Access is not restricted by licensing, so any number of people can access them.

As far as strategic planning is going, she said she spoke with the WILS advisors, who seemed impressed by our projects. She wants to do a short survey to local businesses about services.

She said that she has been interviewed by the Chronicle for a back page feature on the libraries of Iowa County. 15 questions were sent out to each library. She will send out those questions to board members. One thing she was asked was how to reward staff for their hard work this year.

She said that Ken Kirby is the newest hire at the library. He has maintenance skills as well as book knowledge. He will work less than 1200 hours a year.

Concerns and Comments of the Board: None

Treasurer’s Report:

Weber moved to accept the bills in the amount of \$8,761.54 for payment. Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried with no negative votes.

Stangel said we have \$382,507.77 in the account. We have already received Iowa, Green and Dane County annual payments. Iowa County pays 72%, but 2% is for outreach, which is going to Ridgeway and related outreach expenses.

Next Meeting: March 15, 2021, immediately following the Foundation Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Howard