

Library Board Meeting Minutes May 8, 2023

Members present: Finander, Romenesko, Styles Spooner, Tetrick, Thompson, and Halgren (staff)

Absent: Hart (excused), Rund (excused), Gold

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes
- Bills

Approval of the consent agenda items moved by Finander, seconded by Tetrick, roll call vote, passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Repair and Maintenance

- April was the month for repairs!
- The openings on the Plexiglass protectors at the front desk were widened per staff requests to improve the passing of materials back and forth; the leaning, broken kiosk was removed; the water fountain no longer splashes up on people; and the boiler and pump were inspected, cleaned and restarted at the end of the month.

NEW BUSINESS

Circulation Stats

- Stats are not available until May 10 and will be presented at June's meeting.

Latest New Library Discussions

- Margaret Stone, Director of Dakota County Library, informed Halgren that she and DC ER had met with their union regarding the upcoming merger with South St. Paul, and staff will not be competing with DCL staff for positions at the new SSP library. Their union rep will be happy to provide an orientation to union specifics in the future.
- In May, Stone also will be conducting one-on-one meetings with staff regarding their unique situations in light of the merger.
- Ryan Garcia, SSP City Administrator, is following up with Matt Smith, Dakota County Manager, concerning the 1998 merger of Lakeville employees into the County fold when the Licensing Center became part of the County. Smith had held this up as an example of successful transitioning of employees into the County, and library staff would like to know the particulars of that transition as a precedent for future mergers with the County. Smith will be looking into both the Lakeville Licensing Center and the inclusion of Hastings into DCL and speaking to DC ER about the details.
- On April 13, Honora Rodriguez, Halgren, Margaret Stone, and two members of the Public Art Committee of Dakota County discussed the draft RFP for the art commission above the fireplace. Their insight was invaluable, and the newly revised RFP is progressing nicely with Honora Rodriguez supplying a design board for the benefit of artists considering this project. The Public Art Committee members also recommended 8-10K as remuneration for the artwork, and they also suggested applying to the committee for matching funds. If the board authorized up to 5K from the Beyer Trust fund for this project, we'd most likely be in this range with matching funds from the committee.

Motion to allot up to \$5,000 for commissioning artwork above the fireplace in the Heritage Room/Quiet Zone in the new library made by Thompson, seconded by Styles Spooner, roll call, passed unanimously.

MN Author Project

- Halgren has been selected as a judge for the 6th annual Minnesota Author Project which features the best indie-published eBooks from the state. Entries will fall within Adult Fiction, Young Adult, and Communities Create categories. The latter category pertains to collaborative work by organizations and communities in MN.
- Winners will be announced at the Minnesota Library Association Conference being held October 4-5 in St. Paul and will receive \$2,000, publication of their book on BiblioBoard Library, and other promotional opportunities.
- Readers can access the Indie Minnesota Collection through the MN Writes MN Reads website at <https://library.biblioboard.com/modeule/indie-minnesota>.
- Halgren will be judging from mid-May through mid-August.

Kaposia Days Parade

- This year's parade is June 23, and the Dakota County Library's On the Go van will be joining us!
- Staff discussions have focused around a possible banner, candy, walking vs. riding bikes, etc.
- Finander plans on walking in the parade, and Thompson offered to drive participants to the parade site.

Elections

- With no risk of violating the bylaws, Finander nominated Romenesko for a third term as President and agreed to continue in his role as Vice President.
- These terms will last until the Library Board disbands later this year.

Motion to approve the slate of Romenesko for President and Finander as Vice President with the Library Director supplying minutes of the meetings moved by Thompson, seconded by Styles Spooner, roll call, passed unanimously.

Carol Lee Johnson Funeral

- Carol Lee Johnson worked at the library for over 50 years (1945-1996), ending her career as the director from 1983-1996, and she passed away on December 26, 2022.
- Her Celebration of Life will be Thursday, May 11, at First Presbyterian Church at 2 pm with visitation an hour before. Halgren will send flowers.

Programming Highlights

Adult Programs

- Still operating as a hybrid meeting, book club members discussed *If You Lived Here You'd Be Home By Now* by Christopher Ingraham (4/13).
- *Upcoming*: Book discussion of *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba (5/11); Organic Wire Sculptures (5/15); author appearance by Shannon Gibney (6/8).

Children's Programs

- The latest scavenger hunt was completed by 48 children. Thirteen participated in Seed Art by COMPAS (4/10).
- *Upcoming*: Wheels Make Music: Sing, Play and Learn with MacPhail (5/16); class visits in May; Summer Discovery begins June 12!

Other/Correspondence

- Halgren read thank you cards from Daisy Troop 58301, Neighbors, Inc., and the family of Thomas Brown

Motion to adjourn the May Library Board meeting made by Romenesko, seconded by Finander, roll call vote, passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Next meeting – June 12, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Halgren
Library Director

Programming Statistics

April through partial May 2023

Program name	Program Start Date	Format	Target age	Attendance: in-person programs	Attendance: live virtual programs	Views at 30 days: recorded programs	Participants: self-directed activities
Scavenger Hunt	04/03/23	Self-directed activity	ages 0-5				48
Poetry: Your Voice is a Kaleidoscope	04/03/23	In-person onsite program	Adult (ages 19+)	1			
Storytime for 2s-6s	04/04/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	17			
Storytime for Babies	04/05/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	7			
Toddlers Takeover	04/07/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	19			
Seed Art	04/10/23	In-person onsite program	ages 6-11	13			
Storytime for 2s-6s	04/11/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	32			
Storytime for Babies	04/12/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	10			
Adult Book Club	04/13/23	In-person onsite program	Adult (ages 19+)	8			
Book Club Virtual Attendance	04/13/23	Live virtual program	Adult (ages 19+)		1		

Storytime for 2s-6s	04/18/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	9			
Storytime for Babies	04/19/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	11			
Maple Tree	04/20/23	In-person offsite program	ages 0-5	36			
Toddlers Takeover	04/21/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	2			
Storytime for 2s-6s	04/25/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	18			
Storytime for Babies	04/26/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	9			
Scavenger Hunt	05/01/23	Self-directed activity	ages 0-5				32
Storytime for 2s-6s	05/02/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	7			
Storytime for Babies	05/03/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	4			
Toddlers Takeover	05/05/23	In-person onsite program	ages 0-5	8			