

Coralville Public Library Board of Trustees
May 3rd, 2023

A meeting of the Coralville Public Library Board of Trustees was held
Wednesday May 3rd, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Present: The following members of the Library Board were present: X. Cretzmeyer, Amanda Elkins, Bob Turnquist, Molly Logan Wilson in person; Deborah Hatz and Pat Kenner via Zoom. Also present: Alison Ames Galstad (Library Director), Ellen Alexander (Assistant Library Director).

Absent: Lisa Mellecker, Hai Huynh (City Council Representative).

President Elkins called the meeting to order at 6:00.

The Board considered approval of the agenda. Wilson moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Turnquist seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered approval of the minutes of the March 8, 2023 meeting. Turnquist moved that they be approved, Kenner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered approval of the minutes of the April 5, 2023 meeting. Wilson moved that they be approved as presented, Kenner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered approval of the bills for April. Galstad pointed out that the last three items on the bill list are Summer Reading Challenge guests, and are all being funded by the Friends. Turnquist moved that the bills be approved as presented, Cretzmeyer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered the gift of art prints from the Hyatt Regency Coralville. Kenner moved that the gift be accepted and given to the Friends of the Library, to benefit the Library. Turnquist seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Director's Report to City Council. She presented at the City Council meeting last week, and the report was well-received. Alexander also updated the Board on Library involvement and contributions to the City of Coralville's sesquicentennial celebration, including how planning for the wheat pasting murals is coming.

Cretzmeyer gave a report from the Friends of the Library. Their Annual Meeting was held on the 26th. The treasurer reported a great year for them. Kevy Huynh received the teen service award (\$1,000), and Debbie Hatz was recognized with a Volunteer Milestone award for 5,000 volunteer hours. The T. Patricia Dee Volunteer Service Award presented by the CPL Board of Trustees was awarded to longtime trustee Keith Jones, who retired from the Board last year upon appointment to the City Council, and who also served as a founding member of the CPL Foundation. Sara Pitcher did a presentation on the Blind Date with a Cookbook contest (cookbooks furnished by the Friends), which was a very successful program with extensive participation. Alison gave a report, overviewing the past year and what is coming up in the near future, and Sara & Erika offered a report on the DPIL. The April 28-29 Book Sale raised over \$5,000.

Galstad and Cretzmeyer reported on behalf of the Foundation, which met on April 12th. The Foundation has a formula to determine funds available to support Library projects annually. This year, the Foundation Board voted to make available unexpended funds from FY23 in the amount of \$8,000 plus an additional \$12,000 in funds for FY24. Areas for which they approved funding include: Restoration of Mishka the bear sculpture; Support for Community Fridge; Renovation of West Wing makerspace area. Galstad noted that there is an art restoration expert on board who will be working on the sculpture preservation and restoration this

summer. It should be ready by Fall 2023. In addition, the Foundation also received \$800 in memory of Library founder Fran Rogers from her family and friends, and an additional memorial donation of \$1400 for Jim Zimmerman. Lastly, today is “Great Give Day” a day of giving for local nonprofits, promoted by the Community Foundation of Johnson County. The Library has QR codes posted around the library to encourage people to donate online, and did some marketing for it via the website and social media.

Galstad gave the Director’s Report. Circ and Visits were up significantly compared to last year. Physical items accounted for 67% of total circulation. Hot spot use is up, and there are once again hold queues. With ICPL discontinuing their hotspot lending program, we will need to watch our use trends. The Small Business Administration is on site with an emergency response team ~ they offer low interest emergency loans to businesses, individuals, and nonprofits. They will be on site for three weeks, and this is in response to the recent tornado. The Staff Inservice on April 14th was very good. Semehar Ghebrekidan and Michael Maxwell from Sioux City did a workshop on DEI. And Orey Schwitzer did a session on emergency response. The Library Staff also had the opportunity to participate in a webinar with Ibram Kendi, which was excellent and made possible through our social work interns from UI. Thanks to all who came to the Council Meeting during National Library Week for the proclamation, as well as attended the Friends Meeting.

Under other business, Kenner inquired about the challenge at the Kalona Public Library, and wondered if the CPL Board should make a statement. The consensus was that the Board would await the outcome of that situation, and Galstad noted that she would be discussing it with the other Library Directors as the upcoming Directors’ meeting for the Johnson County Public Libraries.

The next meeting will be June 7th.

Hatz motioned for adjournment, and Elkins adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Alexander
Assistant Library Director
(Subject to approval at the June 2023 meeting.)