

*****DRAFT*****

Worthen Library

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Attending:

Board members: Ken Kowalewitz, Natalie Kendrach, Liz Wirsing, Gabby Ramseyser, and Kristen Bartle

Recording Secretary: Mary Harwood

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: None

Call to order @ 6:04 PM

Preliminary Business

- **Review payment orders for approval:** Summary of Bills circulated to the board for review.
- **Agenda adjustments:** Ken Kowalewitz (KK) asks if there are any adjustments to the agenda. Ken requests an addition of open meeting laws to new business.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** LWK moved to accept the minutes from June 11, 2024. KB seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.
- Signed Library Director contract

Library Director's Report:

- The Friends Book Sale is this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This is the first time the sale has happened on a Sunday!
- Arlo's backpacks have a new home on the stairs of the library. Checkouts of the backpacks have increased twofold since the move.
- There are two new substitute librarians. Amanda Campany is a former medical assistant, who currently homeschools her 3 kids. Amber Logan is a current project manager who works from home. Both women have been quick learners, bring great energy, and will be terrific additions to the team.
- Greg Lowe has been putting in a lot of hours updating technology. He has terrific ideas about how to streamline and secure our operations here at the library.

- Liz is a superhero and our account with OTIS elevator has been officially closed. Pop some champagne next time you're in our elevator.
- We added 25 new patrons to our system in June.
- The Fourth of July parade was fun and a success. Big thanks to Ray Kirk for pulling the float with his tractor! A card was circulated for all to sign to thank him. Suggestion was made to start earlier with painting the panels.

Statistics: Ebooks and audiobooks are down from last year as are book loans. Kanopy visits are way up but plays are down.

Old & Ongoing Business

Worthen Society Celebration: Saturday, July 20, 5 to 7 pm. The Foundation has organized all the logistics.

Solar project next steps: The DOE has asked for some amendments to the application. Keagan completed all the changes. Hopefully this has moved the funding forward, but we have been asked for so many edits who knows. There is still a Resolution and Licensing Agreement pending with the condo association to put the panels on the roof of the library as well as on the roof of the Health Center.

Development Committee Report: So far, approximately \$10,000 has come in as a result of the May mailing from 38 individuals. Overall giving for the year is just about \$35,000. This is significantly lower than the same time last year, but that time period included gifts for the solar panels, which included \$47,000 in foundation and anonymous giving in addition to many other restricted gifts. The total unrestricted giving this year is about \$8,000 more than last year. The next activity will be the Worthen Society event.

The Friends Book Sale gets underway this week and promises to be another success.

New Business

Year-end Budget Review: 2023 - 2024 spending was very close to 100% of the budgeted amount. Repairs and maintenance went way over budget, so it will be adjusted for next year. Most lines are close to budget.

Strategic Plan Check In: This will be tabled for discussion at the October meeting but will be revisited at the September meeting.

Musician: Gabby knows a musician who is doing a tour of libraries and would like to have her come to the Worthen. The musician is doing a Fall tour. Gabby and Keagan will follow up with her.

New Open Meeting Law: 2024 Updates to Open Meeting Law, Act 133, was passed at the end of the legislative session about transparency of public bodies. The change was in response to the sunsetting of the pandemic emergency law that allowed for remote meetings. This law makes this permanent. There may be a requirement that meetings include audio recording.

This doesn't become official until January 1, 2025. Hybrid meetings will be more of the norm. We will learn more about the specifics and revisit the new law in the fall.

There will be no meeting in August. The next meeting will be **Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

- Ken
- Natalie
- Liz
- Keagan
- Kristen
- Gabby