

Seymour Public Library Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2019
Regular meeting.

Attendance – Paula Chapla, Jean Uhelsky, Joyce Koslowski, D. Wasikowski, Harvey Eckhardt, T. Schutte, Mike Flynn, and Suzanne Garvey, Library Director. Jenna Stepleman, a journalism major from Southern was in attendance to cover the meeting for a school project.

Board Chair, Paula Chapla called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from February 21, 2019 meeting

Discussion over present board members at the January meeting. January minutes proved to be correct in the account.

A motion to approve the minutes was made:

Motion: D. Wasikowski Second: J. Koslowski

Approved: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 1

Approval of Treasurer's Report for February

Discussion over the water bill and the high monthly charge based on Aquarian's meter reading. Question from Joyce Koslowski over the New Equipment \$834.74 September bill (projector for library programs). Question from J. Koslowski over discrepancy in water/sewer bills. S. Garvey will look for answer for next meeting.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made:

Motion: H. Eckhardt Second: J. Koslowski

Approved: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Director's Report

S. Garvey presented her report and stated that the Library was closed one full holiday day in February and two partial days for snow. February Patron Count: 3081; February Computer Use: 361.

Building maintenance has gone smoothly. Building Committee Upgrades are, hopefully, in the midst of being completed. Glitches here and there-possibly with window trim and the HVAC hook-up.

Department Spending was discussed with the above mentioned Aquarian Bill being the stand out.

Following up on the suggestion from Tom Eighmie (and subsequently the Library Board) to see about using the downed Matthies Tree for a project, Larry Dembek from the Crosswinds Sawmill in Oxford came out to look at the tree. He speculates that a bench or another item could be made. He told me to let him know when Town was scheduled to bring the tree down and we could discuss further. He would cut the tree in planks or slabs and we would have to have the bench constructed ourselves- hopefully with help as the tree relates to Town History as well.

Questions into an official Library Sign revealed that when the project was initiated for town signs, town had a grant for the upgrade. Community Services purchased their sign from Grand Concepts in Seymour, CT- the same company that gave us a quote.

Stats: We had snow a few times in February and that has impacted our statistics. Circulation stats for the month are down from last year in every category except for eBooks.

Public Comment

There was no one from the public wishing to speak.

Old Business – Fundraising for Library-update

P.Chapla presented a copy of a library's donation/fundraising webpage that could be a possible template for Seymour Public Library's fund drive. S. Garvey left the table to produce copies of the library statistics. P. Chapla then presented a document which she had crafted based on Seymour information for a donation webpage as a need for support and asked Board Members to peruse the document and note suggestions they have for next month. Library Director was asked to write a state of the library as well.

Garden Benches

This discussion is tabled until next month.

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Review and vote on the staff materials request for February, March

Note was made of the dire need for more electrical outlets in the library to allow patrons to charge and plug in devices. Though the library has a donated charging station, this is not suitable for laptop charging.

P. Chapla suggested talking to Fire Marshal/ Safety Committee president Tim Willis to see about the possibility of power strips or outlets to use Velcro to the underside of the tables.

S. Garvey stated that they would request \$2,000.00 for adult fiction and non-fiction and \$500.00 for DVDs for April. She also stated that the projected spending for May would be \$2,000.00 for fiction and non-fiction and \$500.00 for DVDs. Juvenile spending for both months is to be determined due to Ann Szaley's absence.

Motion to approve the requests: Joyce Koslowski seconded: Mike Flynn

Approved: Yes:7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Public comment

There was no one from the public wishing to speak.

Meeting to adjourn with acknowledgment that anyone wishing to take a tour of the building upgrades could do so after meeting and those that wished to leave could do so.

A motion to adjourn was made by H. Eckhardt, seconded by J. Koslowski and carried unanimously.

Yes:7 No:0 Abstain : 0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Garvey, Library Director