

Hearst Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2024 – 10:00 A.M.
Hearst Free Library

Trustees Present: Maureen Parrow, Marsha Miller, Kurt Wyant

Library Staff Present: Sam Walters, Director

Trustees Absent with Excuse: Scott Swan, Roberta Frank

Others Present: none

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am.

II. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Kurt Wyant moved to approve the Library Board of Trustees' meeting minutes for the December 4, 2023 meeting. Trustee Marsha Miller seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

III. Director's Report

Director Walters reported that:

- The library continues to host or cosponsor regularly scheduled meetings and programs such as story time (on-site and off-site), High School Leadership Academy, coding club, etc.
- The Dolly Parton Imagination Library program that the Friends of the Library help to administer locally continues to have more area children sign up.
- He will give a lecture on the library on Thursday as part of the Historic Resources Board lecture series.
- The Christmas Tea event on December 10th went well and was well attended.
- The Friends of the Library will hold the annual Chocolate, Wine, and Cheese fundraiser in February.
- AARP representatives will provide free tax preparation at the library again this year beginning in February.
- The Santa photo shoot fundraiser for the PTA went well.

IV. Financial Report

Director Walters reported that:

- Due to a recent, large plumbing bill, the elevator test will be paid for through the library's memorial fund from donations marked as 'general library needs.'

V. Building Report

Director Walters reported that:

- The new parts for the boiler and the new computers are working well.
- The Friends of the Library recently purchased a new rug for the children's section.

Trustee Wyant mentioned that he had spoken to the county and to HydroTech representatives concerning repairs to the 4th street steps, and that he would keep the board updated on any progress.

VI. Unfinished Business

None

VII. New Business

- **Closed Days in 2024**

Trustee Miller moved that in addition to the list of holidays observed by the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County government the library will also close early or all day on February 10, November 30, December 24, and December 31, 2024. Trustee Maureen Parrow seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- **Veteran's Oral History Project**

There was general discussion about using the report compiled by Leigha Bates as a template to launch an oral history project focusing on local veterans in February or March.

- **Building Repairs**

There was general discussion about various building repair and upgrade needs as well as funding possibilities.

- **Lincoln School children program in February.**

Director Walters stated that the principal of the Lincoln Primary School was interested in holding a program at the library that would involve groups of students, their parents, and teachers reading together on a day in February from 8:40am to 2:10pm.

There was general discussion in favor of the program.

IX. Miscellaneous:

Director Walters stated that he had been in contact with two groups who are interested in doing some paranormal investigation at the library.

There was general discussion concerning the investigations.

X. Public Comment:

None

XII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted By

Sam Walters

Sam Walters, Director and Board Secretary