

Neenah Public Library Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2024

The meeting of the Neenah Public Library Board of Trustees held on April 17, 2024, in the Shattuck Community Room, was called to order by Koller at 4:00 p.m.

Members present: Carol Codner, Tami Erickson (Aldermanic representative), Randy Fieldhack, Lisa Hemes, Beth Irish, Michael Koller (president), Jenn McMahon (Neenah Joint School District representative), Pat Rickman, Harrison Flint (teen representative), and Alivia Haller (teen representative).

Members excused: Joshua Kutney and George Scherck (Winnebago County representative)

Also present, Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm, director, Nancy Baird, circulation services manager, Mehta Hess, adult services manager, Katrina Wulff, youth services manager.

Minutes

On motion of Erickson, seconded by Hemes, the Board approved the Library Board meeting minutes of March 20, 2024.

On a motion of McMahon, seconded by Codner, the Board approved the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting minutes of April 15, 2024.

Pat Rickman arrived at 4:01 p.m.

Director's and Technical Services Report

Director Hardina-Wilhelm announced that the Neenah Arts Council photo contest submissions are displayed on the 2nd floor until April 21. On April 26th the Neenah Joint School District's Art Show will then be displayed in that space until May 15th. Hardina-Wilhelm relayed a library story from the Valley VNA Storytime about a small child who took her very first steps to cheers and an ovation from the residents and attendees.

Department reports

Adult Services Department

Hess mentioned that the new Adult Services Librarian is doing very well and has taken on the Book Club to Go program that the previous Librarian handled. Hess reported that proctoring exams has increased significantly in the last few months. She also noted a library story submitted by Friendship Place that praised the library for its inclusiveness and for being a safe, warm, and welcoming space for everyone.

Circulation Services Department

Baird reported that the library collected six boxes of food for Fox Valley Community Table during the April Libraries Against Hunger Food Drive. The Movers for Moms Drive for Harbor House runs until May 6th. Baird shared a library story told to Nicole Schilt by a gentleman who recently came across a special book he had purchased from the Pop-Up Booksale last year. Opening the cover, he found a message from his wife, who can no longer communicate due to a stroke. He felt he had received one more conversation with her.

Youth Services Department

Wulff announced that the Winter School-Age Reading Challenge had 76 participants. She highlighted several upcoming events, including the popular Pint-sized Prom and a new "building Gnome Houses" program. Wulff showed the Board her newly designed Summer Programs calendar. She also relayed a library story submitted by the YMCA regarding the wonderful collaboration and partnership they have with the Youth Department.

Bills for consideration

On the motion of Fieldhack, seconded by Irish, the Board unanimously approved payment of the April bills.

Policy Revision: Teen Representative

On the motion of Erickson, seconded by Codner, the Board approved the motion to allow the Teen representatives to be appointed up to three one-year terms.

Adjacent County Funding

On the motion of Koller, seconded by Erickson, the Board approved billing Calumet, Green Lake, Fond du Lac, Waupaca, and Waushara counties for use of the library by their residents.

Policy Revision: Succession Plan

On a motion by Rickman, seconded by Hemes, the Board approved the motion to remove the sections in the Plan referring to the Deputy Director and to use they/their pronouns for the Director consistently within the policy.

Policy Revision: Article 7 Library Director

On a motion by Koller, seconded by Fieldhack, the Board approved replacing “Deputy Director” with *their designee*.

Policy Revision: Emergency Powers

On a motion by Hemes, seconded by Erickson, the Board approved replacing “Deputy Director” with *their designee*.

Next regularly scheduled meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Shattuck Community Room.

At 5:01 p.m., on a motion by Irish, seconded by Fieldhack, the Board approved moving into closed session as provided for by Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(c) to consider the performance and compensation of the library director as part of the City’s annual employee evaluation process.

Adjournment

On motion of Erickson, seconded by Irish, the Library Board adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Baird