

NEWTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 22nd 4PM

4:00 All board members met for training presented by Maryann Mori, State Library of Iowa

5:07 President McConnell called the Library Board Meeting to order.

Board Members Present: Rita Baker, Juana McConnell, Darcy Soule and Terry Townsend

Also Present: Library Director Nicole Terry, Jill Miller (patron).

Agenda Approval: Moved by Baker, seconded by Townsend and passed to approve the Agenda.

Minutes Approval: Moved by Baker, seconded by Townsend and passed to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2021 meeting. Moved by Soule, seconded by Baker and passed to approve the minutes of the April 14 special meeting.

Public Comments/Concerns: The Library Board received a letter from Jill Miller requesting that we review our overdue policy and she was currently attending our meeting via zoom. Since this item was on our agenda to discuss under New Business, we moved to forward to discuss since Ms Miller was online. The board then discussed the renewal and fines proposed changes and Baker moved to approve, seconded by Townsend and passed to approve the changes to the Use of Library Materials.

Approval of Bills: Moved by Baker, seconded by Soule and passed to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$14,414.43.

Library Financial Report; Nicole discussed the Library budget performance.

Long Range Plan: April items on track.

Library Directors Report: Nicole discussed the problems with competing programs on the computers requiring large amounts of time for our contracted IT consultant and our Library staff since they now have to remove the histories, downloads and documents after each use to provide proper patron privacy.

NPL Foundation: The Foundation sponsored the movie Hop on April 2nd and 3rd at the Capitol II Theater. The movie was free for the 198 attendees. The Foundation is also funding an ice cream truck for the Summer Reading Program Kickoff on June 1st from 4-7PM.

Old Business:

Proposed Library COVID-19 Re-Opening Plans: Nicole discussed the May 3rd and June 1st proposed changes which were all acceptable to the Board. The Board did discuss in detail several issues Nicole and the Library staff had.

1. Handling children programs in the event of rain - the Board agreed that it would not be appropriate to move these programs inside so staff will do their best to reschedule an outside date.

2. When leading an adult craft program will staff be able to remove their mask to lead the craft - the Board agreed that the best approach would be to ask the participants if they had a concern about the leader not wearing a mask and act accordingly.

3. When will outside entities be allowed to use our meeting and conference room - the Board agreed that we should revisit this topic monthly and not allow use of our facilities by outside groups until City policies allow and the mask policy has been revised.

New Business:

a. Board At-Large Seat Posting - the opening for this Library Board seat will be posted. Since this is for a mid-term replacement, the appointment would be for just over three years.

b. Hotspots update - the hotspots continue to be popular, but there are 2 that have not been returned and have been referred to the Library's Collection Service provider.

c. Lambs Grove 28-E Letter Approval & Signing - the board reviewed the 28-E letter and it was moved by Baker and seconded by Townsend and passed to approve the Agreement. The Agreement was signed by McConnell and Townsend.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting: Thursday, May 27th, 4PM

1. Board appointments
2. Use of Library facilities by outside groups

Adjourn - moved by Townsend, seconded by Soule and passed to adjourn at 6:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Terry Townsend, Secretary