MINUTES

Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees February 25, 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Jill Stanish, Joe Herring, Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. BILLS were approved.

Director's Report

- Joan and Sarah read at ENP Elementary for World Read Aloud Day. Two classes also came to the library.
- \$1300 was raised at the Imagination Library fundraiser brunch.
- Fifteen attended the Friendship Party on February 15 (several others could not attend due to illness).
- Blind Date with a Book was a success. Drawing will be held at the end of the month.
- Most performers have been planned for the Summer Reading Program thanks to funding from the Friends
- Future of Tiger P.A.C.K still unknown. Library will continue to reach out to the elementary school and daycares.
- One of the emptied shelves in teen area will be used to store activities geared for teens. A shelf will be made to serve as counter for teen computer stations (with stools).
- Upcoming events for March include:
 - o March 3rd Doug Shaw –Social Nonsense Presentation
 - o March 6th Teen Oreo Tasting Challenge; includes drawing for a Hy-Vee gift card
 - o March 6th -7th Friends of the Library Book Sale; following week books available for free will donation
 - o Week of March 16-20 Spring Break Activities being planned
 - o March 25 Kathy Wilson presentation on Women's Right to Vote (10:30am-12:00pm)

Old Business

- Study rooms have been completed and are already being used. Waiting for electrician to move thermostat.
- Finance Committee removed \$6000 from library 2020-2021 budget; Joan has not heard back from city
- Joan will find out in March whether the library will be awarded a Barlow Grant. Joan is also waiting to hear about results for a STEM grant
- Kids Matter Conference in April will hopefully be attended by the new Children's Librarian.

New Business

- Due to her husband's job transfer, Sarah Odem resigned as the Children's Librarian. Her last day will be February 26. The job opening was posted online.
- Joan received several applicants for the Children's Librarian Position; she talked with the Personnel Committee and interviewed two equally qualified candidates. After the interviews, one candidate removed herself from consideration. Board approved Joan's request to offer the job to the other candidate.
- Joan will be out of town March 16-21. Susan will cover Monday through Friday that week. Board approved shortened hours on Saturday, March 21 of 9am-12pm.
- During the staff transition, Joan requested that the library close at 6pm on Mondays in March. Board approved that change for the month of March.
- Discussed the possibility of using Nancy Miller (ENP Elementary Librarian) as a substitute at the library. Board approved using a substitute as needed at the hourly rate of \$10. Nancy is available to help during Spring Break and over the summer.
- Due to Joan's scheduled foot surgery on Monday, March 30, the Board approved moving the March Board Meeting back one week to the 4th Tuesday.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 5:00pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees

January 28, 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Rex Lawler, Jill Stanish, Mary Swartz, Joe Herring, Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. BILLS were approved.

Director's Report

- The program with Magician Dr. Jack was well attended; younger children did experiements with library staff.
- Thanks to the Friends of the Library for funding two programs. The first was Brad Wilkening's Holocaust program was attended by 30 people with a very favorable response. The second was a program by Chad Lewis. 15 people attended (including one very enthusiastic student).
- Book Club attendance has not been good; alternative ideas are being considered, including a "Book Buddies" program after school.
- Library hosted a successful game day for Tiger Pack on a recent teacher inservice day.
- Moving books to prepare for a teen area is almost complete; library received a \$200 donation toward furniture for the new teen area.
- Eldora Library was featured in the Edge newsletter for the technology grant received.
- Library has had supplies out for people to write letters to animals in Australia and to make Valentines for Vets. Library staff will distribute the valentines.
- Library hopes to have a Waffle Day at the library.
- Joan reported that staff have had to keep closer eye on the public restrooms. Light fixture in women's restroom has been tampered with and some other concerns had been expressed. Staff are hoping to not have to resort to locking restrooms.
- Upcoming events for February include:
 - o Feb. 3rd Blind Date with a Book will be returning
 - o Feb. 5th Joan and Sarah will participate in World Read Aloud Day at the Elementary
 - o Feb. 9th Fundraising Brunch at Dorothy's (9:30-12:30) for Imagination Library
 - o Feb. 14th Valentine & LEGO party for Tiger Pack
 - o Feb. 15th will be a Friendship Party at the library from 10-11am
 - o Feb. 19th Sarah attends Summer Reading Program conference in Clear Lake

Old Business

- Blake Ritchie has not yet completed the library study room. Joan reported the second room will need an additional coat of paint to completely cover. Blake told Joan he would be in at the end of this week. Joan reported that a ceiling mirror will be mounted to provide staff clear view from the front desk into the study rooms.
- New website is done for the library. Patrons can leave book reviews.
- Joan has received no official word about county decision for library funding.
- Joan will apply for a Barlow Grant for teen furniture. Grant is due in March.
- Boiler inspection was completed with no concerns noted.

New Business

Annual Subscription rate for the Waterloo Courier went up significantly. Joan is considering cancelling. Board

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees April 28, 2020

PRESENT (via Zoom): Kristin Gehrke, Jerry Trittien, Jill Stanish, Mary Swartz, Jackie Winters, Joe Herring, Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. BILLS were approved.

Director's Report

- One person got a new library card (over the phone). Patrons have been very thankful to have curbside service.
- Joan, Susan, and Elaine participated in the Virtual Kids Matter Conference.
- Book weeding and deep cleaning continue. Wood slats were removed from windows and windows cleaned.
- Book baskets will be retired and replaced by bags with a 10 book assortment instead.
- Curtain rods were mounted in children's and adult reading areas (needed to purchase two for the adult area). Depending on cost, may consider changing curtains seasonally. New carpet was added in children's area.
- Library did not receive a Barlow Family Foundation grant for teen furniture. Due to social distancing, the Foundation felt funds should go elsewhere this year but encouraged the Library to reapply in the future.
- Online services have included Facetime live events and sharing links to resources.
- State library and other librarians are using Zoom to stay connected during closure.
- Joan is hoping there will be extra funds in the budget to purchase a new copier in the future.
- Joan will present at a webinar in June about using the Edge Assessment and receiving the technology grant.

Old Business

- Library is still closed due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- Children's area cleaning and rearrangement has been completed. Included rearrangement of books in children and juvenile fiction areas as well as children's non-fiction.
- Waterloo Courier newspaper subscription was cancelled.
- Joan's foot surgery has been rescheduled for May 7.
- Board officially approved the painting authorization for entry way and restrooms. Susan did a great job on a mural above the door going into the library.

New Business

- The Library used Greenbelt Tech for 6 months and Joan recommended hiring again for the next year at \$500. Board approved renewing the contract for next year (Mary abstained).
- Joan cancelled the Ackley newspaper which will save the library \$52/year. Board discussed the remaining subscriptions and agreed to keep the following for the time being: Grundy Center, Hubbard, Marshalltown, Iowa Falls and Des Moines Register. Upon reopening, a computer will be available for reading newspapers digitally.
- Discussed procedures for re-opening the library. Joan distributed copies of the tentative plan.
 - o Phase 1: (May 1-14) Library remains closed to public; curbside service continues.
 - Phase 2: (May 15-31) Limited hours of operation, computer use limited to 4 computers, by appointment for 30 minutes. Study rooms will not be available. Conference room will not be available as it is being used to sanitize and quarantine returned materials.
 - o Phase 3: (June 1-July 11) would still include limited hours, patrons, and computer use (up to 60 minutes). Use of study rooms will be allowed with sanitizing completed between patrons. No conference room use.
 - O Phase 4: (July 13) Library returns to full hours, furniture and toys will be brought back out, computer usage back to two hour limit.
- Joan will check with the state regarding masks and taking temperatures. Discussed having hand sanitizer dispenser at a table inside the library. Joan will check on a wall mounted sanitizer dispenser for the entryway.
- Summer Reading Program will be held online. Friends of the Library purchased READsquared software to use. Program will be for all ages.
- Sneeze guards were purchased; one will be adapted by Bill Grothoff.
- A federal grant for expenses related to Covid-19 may be a possibility.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 5:00pm.

• suggested it be cancelled for now and can be renewed at a later time if enough patrons request it.

- Joan will be cutting back on the number of magazine subscriptions.
- Finance Committee cut back \$6000 from Maintenance and Repairs. If Courier system continues, library could save on postage for interlibrary loan materials.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 5:00pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees May 26, 2020

PRESENT: Kristin Gehrke, Jerry Trittien, Rex Lawler, Jill Stanish, Mary Swartz, Joan Grothoff. Participating via Zoom were Jackie Winters and Joe Herring.

MINUTES were approved. BILLS were approved.

Director's Report

- Joe Herring offered a tree program in May through Zoom and had 2 participants.
- A touchless hand sanitizing dispenser was purchased for library. Brandon Jones made a stand for it, located at the front desk.
- Circulation computers are protected by plexiglass. Thanks to Bill Grothoff for making a holder for one of them.
- State Library has been hosting weekly Zoom meetings during Covid-19 situation. State will offer a class in the fall to plan best practices for Pandemic Policy.
- Conference room will be unavailable for summer; room being used for sanitation of returned books.

Old Business

- Currently in Phase 2 of re-opening. May 15th was first day taking appointments. Patrons still enjoying curbside service and use of wifi from parking lot.
- Registration for Summer Reading Program is open through READsquared. Link was provided on the library's Facebook page. Program begins June 1. Parents without online access can track child's minutes on paper. Adult program details will come later; Zoom programs for adults will be offered.
- Chandra has not heard any updates about Covid-19 grant; Joan is coding bills in case a reimbursement becomes available for supplies related to extra cleaning procedures.
- The State Edge webinar was postponed until October 2020.

New Business

- Phase 3 of re-opening begins June 1. Hours will remain shortened to allow for thorough cleaning daily.
- Catherine chose not to return to clean while patron numbers are limited. Elaine is working an additional 10 hours/week helping cover Catherine's cleaning duties. Elaine is doing the cleaning at the same hourly rate as her children's librarian hours.
- Board approved use of funds from Building and Maintenance to pay for the new copier that has arrived. Joan was told by city that library can sell the old copier.
- Discussed continuation of monthly Zoom subscription versus an annual subscription. Board voted to continue on a monthly basis for the time being.
- Friends of the Library will not have a summer book sale. Campaign for contributions has also been postponed.
- Jill Stanish will complete her Trustee duties on the board as of June 30, 2020. Discussed possible candidates for the vacancy; Joan will find out if any are willing to serve. Kristin will remain on the Board for another term.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 5:00pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees June 23, 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Rex Lawler, Jill Stanish, Jackie Winters, Joe Herring, and Joan Grothoff.

MINUTES were approved. BILLS were approved.

Director's Report

- Three kids participated in Dial-a-Story. Elaine continues to offer online story time and craft sessions for Summer Reading program.
- Enrollment in the Summer Reading program includes: 23 preschoolers, 74 kindergarten-5th grade, 7 teens, and 38 adults.
- Joan attended a Zoom meeting regarding phased reopening with libraries across the state. Libraries are being encouraged to resume slowly and limit time spent in the library. Eldora was one of the first to open.
- State of Library will be mailing out "Protect and Disinfect" Kits to libraries in Iowa. Should receive it after June 30.
- Friends of Library will meet on June 26 to discuss fundraising. There will be no 2020 summer book sale.
- Planned activities for July include: a story walk near Community Garden, a Scavenger Hunt around Eldora, and a drive-in movie for the end of the Summer Reading Program.
- Joan will be on the radio; the interview can be heard on Sunday, June 28th at 6:15am on KDAO or 7:00am on AM1190.

Old Business

- With Board approval, June Board meeting was moved from June 30 to June 23 to allow time to get bills approved prior to the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- Board acknowledged resignation of Jill Stanish, effective June 30.
- No update on refund for Covid-19 expenses.
- Library is in Phase 3 of its Reopening Plan. Library use is slowly increased.
- Catherine has not communicated when she would like to resume cleaning duties. Joan will find out whether she plans to continue in the new fiscal year.

New Business

- Joan is staying in touch with other Hardin County Libraries.
- New doorbell was added to alert staff when patrons enter library.
- City authorized library to sell the old copier machine; Joan will post for sale sometime after July 1.
- Joan is applying for any available grants she can.
- Emily Stoulil was introduced to the Board and will be a new Library Board Trustee starting in July, pending mayoral approval.
- Joan attended a Human Resource Meeting with new city HR person, Wendy Bradley. Wendy requested that Joan provide the city with copies of employee evaluations.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 5:00pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees August 25, 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Kristin Gehrke, Mary Swartz, Emily Stoulil, Joe Herring, Rex Lawler, and Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. Bills were approved

Director's Report

- Library has bought ten face shields. Some patrons were having trouble understanding library employees through a facemask.
- Apollo annual subscription was \$1,400 this year. This was \$200 less than last year due to lower circulation, because of covid.
- Friends of the library membership drive has been successful. A silent auction of wood creations raised \$150.
- The friends of the library have committed \$2,500 for summer reading program next year, and will give money towards purchase of 25 new release large print books.
- Elaine Bahr is starting the teen advisory group. Several girls have committed to the new group.
- Joan is working on an Emergency Action plan. After the Dericho winds, she feels this is a necessary policy.
- Wish Tree Only one patron put a wish on the tree.
- Story time online participation has been minimal. Elaine will have an outside socially distanced story time on Wednesdays at 10:00 am.
- Covid 19 webinar, with the state, had information on what to do if a staff member tests positive.
- One school age family and one preschool age family helped in suppling materials for homeschooling.
- Next Story Walk will be at Memorial Park over Labor Day weekend. Mother Bruce was chosen as the book.
- A virtual book club for 3-5 children will be in September. They meet to discuss the book via zoom.
- Wendy Bradley is implementing personnel policy changes. This should not affect the library.
- Library will continue with outside story times. Story times will be recorded for those unable to attend.
- Two September speakers have been postponed Kathy Wilson and Linda McCann.
- ARSL conference is online the last week of September. It is 11 2 daily.
- Library continues to explore ways to keep interest in the library with limited in person time available.

Old Business

- Library wants to stay with their current policy of not requiring patrons to wear a mask.
- Mary and Jackie did Joan's annual evaluation. Joan has done Susan's annual evaluation.
- Old copy machine has not found a buyer. If someone makes a reasonable offer, the offer will be accepted
- Library is continuing to hand out "Caught in the Act" bags to patrons caught doing an act of kindness.
- Elaine Bahr has been doing cleaning in the library for five hours a week.

New Business

- Library is continuing in Phase 3. Joan will send a revised library after school plan that has all the CDC guidelines to the school. The students and parents will know the library is a safe place to go after school with the new rules
- Hardin County Library Challenge is being discussed. It would involve a Stem and reading challenge bingo.
 Libraries showing an interest are: Eldora, Iowa Falls, Union, Alden, and Union. The goal is to get more use of the libraries
- Carpet cleaning has not been done in 2020 because of lower use wit Covid. Cleaning of the carpet will be delayed until sometime in 2021.
- Library online programs have not had a good response.
- Board approved for Joan to get a new office chair for her office.
- Joan may have to discipline a non- compliant patron. Policies are in place if further action is needed.

Next Meeting: Tuesday September 29, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees September 29, 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Kristin Gehrke, Mary Swartz, Emily Stoulil, Joe Herring, Rex Lawler, and Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. Bills were approved

Director's Report

- Elaine hosted an outside Story time and will post a story time online each week.
- A story walk at Memorial Park was a huge success. The next story walk will be around Halloween.
- Fall Bingo challenge was sent out to elementary students. Stem/reading bingo cards were supplied to each library in the county. A traveling trophy to the winning library.
- Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference starts this week.
- We will continue Phase 3 plan through October. Eldora library hours and pandemic policies are similar to other libraries in Hardin county.
- Viewing of the Hubble event in the library parking lot had 15 people in attendance. A short film "Deep Field: The Impossible Magnitude of our Universe" was shown.
- Majority of patrons respect mask wearing and sanitizing.
- Elaine read at the Good Shepard preschool. She plans to reach out to daycares reading and delivering materials.
- Iowa Library Association virtual conference will be October 18th from 9-5.
- Siemans will do a fall check on the heating and cooling system.
- City council will hopefully approve Trick or Treat for evening of October 31. The library Halloween story walk will be from 4-5 pm. followed by Trick or Treat night.
- Librarians have been brainstorming ways to keep kids/teens using the libraries.
- Having books by themes set up on tables in the library, has been very successful

Old Business

- Old copy machine works, but still no buyer.
- Still issues with non-compliant patron. Will be disciplined further if this continues.
- Library is in Phase 3 with small changes to hours open.

New Business

- Friends of the Library are paying around \$1,100 for plexiglass for the entire front desk.
- Library is waiting on Trick or Treat approval from the city to have story walk and party on Halloween night.
- Friends of the Libirary have been selling the libraries old computers for \$25 each. The library upgraded to new computers recently.
- Library received a new personnel handbook for city employees. The new handbook had very few changes.
- Eldora will hire a new city administrator. A big criteria is someone who would answer daily questions.

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 27, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees October 27th 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Kristin Gehrke, Mary Swartz, Emily Stoulil, Jackie Winters, Rex Lawler, and Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. Bills were approved

Director's Report

- Elaine will move Story Time inside as the weather gets colder. Story time is Wednesday mornings from 10:00 10:30 am. Elaine will offer stories and crafts making at this time. The sessions are recorded and can be seen on Facebook.
- Friends are donating candy for the for the story walk and party on Halloween from 4 6 pm. on the 31st at the Library. Trick or Treat for the city of Eldora will be from 4 -6 pm on October 31.
- Fall Bingo/ book & stem challenge wasn't successful. This was competition between the Hardin county libraries. The Challenge will be tried again at a future date.
- Siemen's fall check is done. The heat or cooling will be turned up at 8 am and lowered at 5 pm.
- Theme tables have been popular was increased book usage.
- Juvenile biographies and Who is, Who was, What is, and What was books were moved to the north wall for more visability. Book circulation increased immediately.
- Rotary is assembling bags for k-2 elementary students for their Halloween parade. The library sent bookmarks, markers, and candy to Rotary for the bags.
- No Santa in the library this December because of Covid.
- Library will present a Winter story on the square during the November 29th Christmas festival. The Christmas party at the library in December is cancelled due to Covid.
- Library is closed for veterans day, November 11th. November 26th and 27th the library will be closed for Thanksgiving.
- Joan is working on a grant for making the Story time more permanent for outside activities.

Old Business

- Person from Boone may buy the old copy machine.
- Chris Davison was suspended from the library for two weeks. Chris will be required to meet with Joan after the suspension. Library behavior policies will be discussed before Chris's library privileges are restored.
- Library is continuing in Phase 3
- Possibility of library receiving money from the Covid Relief grant.
- Friends of the library sold eight computers at \$25 each for a total of \$200.

New Business

- Hardin county is in red status for Covid numbers. A mask mandate for library patrons will start immediately.
 Patrons five years or older will be required to wear a mask in the library. If you forget your mask, the first one will be provided free. If you forget your mask a second time, you will be charged. Joan will use her discretion on the charge for not wearing a mask.
- Library was awarded \$1,000 from the Pilcrow grant for books.
- Library may receive some money from the Covid Relief grant.
- The library will offer books to the Senior Living Complex located by the Community Garden. Occupants will be loaned books for a two week time period.
- Leaves outside the library need to be cleaned up. Possibility of getting students to help.

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 24, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees November 24, 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Kristin Gehrke, Mary Swartz, Jackie Winters, Rex Lawler, and Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. Bills were approved

Director's Report

- Winter Story walk is currently displayed on the courthouse square. The story is "Llama Llama Holiday Drama"
- Library is remaining open to the public. With high Covid numbers patrons are limited to 15 minutes browsing for books and reading newspapers. Thirty minutes is allowed on the computers.
- Joan attended a Focus Group webinar with State Library of Iowa. As a digital resource, Joan suggested National online newspapers be available at the Eldora library to be read online.
- Library will email the Hardin County Supervisors the changes the library has made during Covid.
- Joan has started a "tween/middle grade" section reader section. This is for readers above Juvenile level, but not quite ready for Young Adult books.
- Adult "in library" bingo game is being put on hold because of limited time in the library.
- Winter Story Walk will be displayed in the library or possibly a local business.
- Christmas book bundles and holiday craft kits will be available at the library. "The Twelve Days of December Challenge" for children and adults doing 12 fun activities is coming to the library!
- Letters to Santa will be put on the Wishing tree. Hopefully the library can have a zoom with Santa.

Old Business

- Old copy machine has been sold for \$300.
- Non- compliant patron has met with Joan after two-week suspension from the library. Patron is now allowed to use the library.
- Library will receive new hardcover children's books from the Pilcrow Foundation. Friends of the Library raised \$400, matching grant is \$1,000. Library will receive \$1,400 worth of books.
- Library will receive some money from the Covid Relief Grant.
- Senior living complex book lending from the library is being put on hold because of Covid.

New Business

- Covid Closure policy for the library is somewhat variable with changes possible.
- American Library Association grant is finished. Will know at a later date if the grant is accepted.
- Library will apply for a HCCEF grant for 2021. Getting Iowa State Extension backpacks with STEM books for children in Kindergarden to third grade, is one idea for the grant. Backpacks would have lesson plans for the parents to teach.
- Annual library volunteer luncheon will not be held this year because of Covid.
- We welcome newborn Lincoln Michael Stoulil. Parents are Emily and Zach Stoulil.
- Former library director, Dan Gehring, is moving to Iowa City.

Next Meeting: Tuesday December 29, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

MINUTES Eldora Public Library Board of Trustees December 30, 2020

PRESENT: Jerry Trittien, Kristin Gehrke, Mary Swartz, Jackie Winters, Rex Lawler, and Joan Grothoff

MINUTES were approved. Bills were approved

Director's Report

- Craft kits left by Santa were handed out to the kids. Joan was the Santa. Elaine made the crafts kits.
- Christmas book bundles were available to be checked out. Christmas book bundles were not as popular as the Thanksgiving bundles.
- Wednesday live story time hasn't been well attended. People do listen more to the recording.
- Friday craft sessions are recorded.
- Holiday Story walk is displayed inside the library.
- Library will offer New Year book challenges for adults and kids.
- The 111 childrens' books from the Pilcrow grant are displayed in the back of the library.
- Elaine will deliver books to the Tiger's Den. No story time yet.
- Library will reach out to the Elementary teachers, to see if there is a need to deliver any of the library's books.
- Joan was selected to be on the State Library of Iowa Online Resources Review Task Force. Task Force will
 evaluate data and feedback collected from surveys and focus groups. This will help determine future online
 resource purchases for Iowa libraries.

Old Business

- Idea for the HCCEF 2021 grant is to get around \$5,000 of furniture in the library for the teens. Last month an idea for the grant was Iowa State Extension backpacks with books for the K 3 grades.
- Library has been awarded a grant from the ALA for \$3,000. Joan wants to use this money for more permanent posters on the Storywalks.
- Covid policy will be extended for one month with no changes.

New Business

- Board approved carrying over Joan's 75 hours of unused vacation time to 2021. In 2021 Joan will have 155 hours total vacation time available.
- Budget committee worked on the fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 budget. Salary increases will be the same as the City of Eldora employees.
- Joan is working on the 2021 Summer reading program. She will book a few outside speakers.
- An outside patio or gazebo is Joan's dream for the future.
- Door counter doesn't work properly. Joan will get a new door counter.

Next Meeting: Tuesday January 26 at 5:00 pm.