

Leach Public Library
December 19, 2024

Library Board President, Judy Oren, called the meeting to order at 3:56 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Judy Oren, Kelly McNary, Simone Sandberg, Jeena Kompelien, and Deb Loberg

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Melissa Bakken, Leach Public Library Director

Additions to the Agenda: See Physical Plant

A motion to accept the November minutes was made by Simone Sandberg and seconded by Kelly McNary. The motion passed.

1. Friends of the Library – The Holiday Open House was held on December 17, 2024. The majority of the people who attended were present from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. The next FOTL meeting will be February 19, 2025.

2. Physical Plant – The ceiling fan dimmer switch will be replaced in the near future. The City is currently busy with snow removal. Bradco from Fergus Falls, MN, has submitted a bid of \$24,820.00 for the washing, pin tucking, and caulking on the outside of the Library.

3. Library Operations – The November Monthly and Expenditure Reports were reviewed. Some of the November bills will be listed in the December report due to the Thanksgiving Holiday occurring at the end of the month. Harriet Fleenor's family donated \$1000.00 to the Library in her memory. A possible use for the donation would be to replace the current shelving for the paperback books. The Library had good attendance for the Crafternoon program. Twenty five children attended the Saturday Holiday Crafting Session on December 14, 2024. Rachel Kercher held a Story Time at the local Museum.

4. Old business – Ms. Bakken is finalizing the SWOT analysis that was discussed by the Board in November, 2024.

5. New Business –

- The Library was closed to patrons for a couple of days at the end of November, 2024 due to multiple staff illnesses. Ms. Bakken contacted Darcie Huwe to obtain her approval prior to closing. There were no community complaints.

- The Board discussed keeping technology fines but lowering the fine from \$15/day to \$5/day. Simone Sandberg made a motion to accept this proposal and Jeena Kompelien seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- The Board has had an ongoing discussion about being Fine-Free. Ms. Bakken researched what other libraries are doing in North Dakota. In summary, Grand Forks, West Fargo, Bismarck, and Dickinson, have all gone fine-free. (This does not include technology loans).

- Ms. Bakken was recognized by the Wahpeton City Council for her and staff acquiring \$45,000.00 in grant money for the Library. The Library Board is appreciative of her efforts.

- A Revocable License was signed with the VA. They will begin using the downstairs meeting room for veterans on January 6, 2025. They will use the room on the first Monday of the month from

9:00am to 3:00pm. Their schedule will run from January 6 to May 31 and pick up again from September 1 to December 31, 2025.

· Josh Bartels is now employed by the USPS. He would like to continue working at the Library. If he is able to combine his jobs it is possible that the Library hours would change to 10:00am to 2:00pm on Saturdays.

Judy Oren adjourned the meeting at 4:28 pm.

*Next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2025 at 4:00pm