

Howard Miller Library Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2023

Present: Terry Allen, Amanda Hanson (staff), Kate Kraak, Alison Reese, MaryBeth Timmer, Lynette Lam
Absent: Mary Wilkos, Liz Harsevoort

Meeting called to order at 4:31pm

Minutes from the November 15th meeting were approved as written.
M-Allison Reese S-Kate Kraak- Passed unanimously.

Director's Report:

The Trick or Trash candy wrapper collection was a huge hit, bringing in 5lbs of wrappers! This is something that costs nothing for the library and will be continued next Halloween as well. A reservation system has been put in place for the Tovertafel and Amanda has been in touch with the local Special Education teachers in regards to this. The library was closed on 11/7 for professional development day (safety procedures from ZPD and ZFD). In addition, the library participated in/sponsored a Big/Little read and gave away 87 copies of "Circe" and 10 copies of the children's Book "Last Stop on Market Street." On December 29th, a magician by the name of Maciek Biezunski put on a show at the library that drew in 195 people!

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

- Terry recommended that we look into possible resources from Hope College to aid in the strategic planning.
- The question of removing the curbside pickup option was brought up and because it does not create anymore work and that some patrons really do rely on it, Amanda would like to keep it as an option.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Amanda received two proposals for strategic planning and plans to talk with City Council to get specifics on the process and will bring it back to the board to work through. Our current plan expires in 2023 and can be extended until a new one is in place.
- It was recommended by Kevin Plockmeyer to leave the libraries endowment fund alone this year. MaryBeth suggested that a letter be sent out to previous donors and patrons asking for contributions to the endowment fund and/or perhaps speak with Abby & Kerri in the city to work on flyers.
- Amanda requested our approval of bringing back the library page position to the library. She is looking for someone for 6 hrs per week. We agreed to have her bring this in front of the City Council.
- Library Appreciation Week is in April and Amanda requested we bring pizza in for the staff. More information on that to come soon!
- A motion was made by Allison and 2nd by Kate to remove the covid barriers from the front desk effective February 1st, 2023. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:11 pm.

APPROVED