

Howard Miller Library Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
April 18

Present: Terry Allen, Amanda Hanson (staff), Kate Kraak, Alison Reese, Mary Wilkos, Lynette Lam

Absent: MaryBeth Timmer

Meeting called to order at 4:35pm

Minutes from the March 21st meeting were approved as written. M-Kate Kraak, S-Alison -Passed unanimously.

Director's Report:

- The library participated in the "Quilt Hop" event that offered a drawing for a \$50 gift card to Hobby Lobby. The event was a huge hit and brought over 1,000 visitors through the library doors!
- Toddler laptime has ended, which gives the staff a little break before Summer Programming begins. Jessica Volkers has put together a fabulous Summer Reading and events program, which she presented to the board.
- Julie Russell and Jessica Volkers host several preschool field trips this time of the year, presenting "Teddy Bear Picnics".
- The library hosted Dr. Steve VanderVeen to present on Zeeland's Early Entrepreneurs on March 15 th at 7pm in the Community Center, with 89 attendees.
- The Adult Zentangle program on March 14 th had 26 people attend and make letter art.
- The StoryWalk® program and activities which will be held on Saturday April 15 th from 1-5pm in downtown Zeeland was a huge success. Over 500 people participated. Maps are available in the library and the storywalk will be available through May 11th.

Old Business:

- The library staff luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 27th and will consist of pizza and sides. Food can be delivered before 11am on Thursday or dropped off the night before. The solicitation letter was approved with the correction of "your gift no matter what amount," instead of "your gift no matter how small." Amanda planned to send the letter out the week of April 23rd, 2023.

New Business:

- The Summer aide position has been posted and the process of interviewing has begun.
- The library board voted on the extension of the Library Services contract between Herrick District Library and the City of Zeeland. It was motioned by Alison Reese and supported by Mary Wilkos to approve the Library Services Agreement between Herrick District Library and the City of Zeeland which is dated as of July 1, 2022 and expires June 30, 2027.
- The discussion was brought up to change the board meetings from an every month schedule, however it was decided to keep the meeting schedule the same and Amanda Hansen will send an email prior to each meeting with an update and possibly cancellation in the event there is not enough to discuss. As of right now, the board will continue to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 4:30pm September-May, skipping the month of December.

Public Comment:

- Leann Parker spoke as public comment today regarding the Review for Reconsideration of Library Materials policy and standing firm on the book choices we have in the library. She explained the importance of having the knowledge found in books available to teach, to heal, and to comfort all ages and circumstances, and how her daughter has used this as a resource in her line of work. Amanda explained the policy that the library has in place forces the individual with the complaint to do the legwork and fill out a form in detail. If

at any time staff feels uncomfortable with a patron, they can refer them to Amanda. Howard Miller library goes through a comprehensive process to select material and makes sure that there are options for both sides of the argument on the shelves.

Board Comment:

- Mary Wilkos suggested adding a thank you note in addition to the food drop off this week for staff appreciation.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm.