

Howard Miller Library Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2023

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

Meeting called to order at 4:31pm

Minutes from the April 18th meeting were approved as written. M-MaryBeth, S-Barb -Passed unanimously.

Director's Report:

- The highlight of April for Amanda was the Storywalk downtown Zeeland. It attracted over 500 students and will remain up until May 13th, 2023.
- Leann Parker was present as staff to present a new concept the library will be implementing called ePRINTit. ePRINTit cloud printing allows users to print from their device to a printer in the library. Patrons could download the app, forward the email to a printer in the library, or go to the website to upload and print. Leann is working on ideas on how to best get this new idea out to patrons and how to train staff as their goal launch date is June 1st. Amanda suggested a "soft launch" and slowly introduce it to those who ask for documents to be printed in house.

Old Business:

- The staff really appreciated the luncheon put on by the library board!
- Amanda contacted Amanda Standerfer of Fast Forward Libraries LLC to engage their consulting services for the upcoming strategic planning activities beginning in May 2023. The staff selected to participate on the Strategic Planning Team to help guide the process include Lynel Danckaert, Susan Downing, Leann Parker, and Amanda Hanson and the Library Advisory Board will be represented by Terry Allen.
- Amanda met with the Community Foundation to get more information and insight on the fundraising for the Howard Miller Library Endowment Fund. The letters will be focused based on the category of people they are targeting and once Amanda receives more information on numbers, the foundation will revisit it with her.
- There have been some staffing changes which include the Librarian I staff member Dustin Danckaert graduating from Grand Valley State University with a teaching degree. Dustin will take on the Seasonal Library Intern/Librarian I position for 40 hours/week from May 30 – August 11. Abby Machiela will return as the part-time Seasonal Library Aide for 28.5 hours/week from May 30 – August 11.
- The digitization process is still being looked into as Amanda has contacted different vendors to get cost, etc. I.T. has to sign off on this project.

New Business:

- Today was the last meeting for the year. Amanda will email us if there is not enough information to hold a formal meeting come Fall.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

- Marybeth Timmer asked if there was anything that the library board could do to support staff. Amanda suggested that we support them with all they do and keep our eyes and ears open to any possible controversy with the latest book challenges. Amanda noted that she typed up a statement that is currently being reviewed by the city manager regarding the library's stand on book challenges and censorship.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

APPROVED