

Gutekunst Public Library Board Minutes January 6, 2022

Todd Meyer called the meeting to order at 6:57pm. Also present: Buffi Honeck, Don Goodman, Michelle Wilkinson, Beau Hanson, Sandra Nyberg, Mara Edler, and Jackie Barnes (as liaison for The Friends Group). The Board meeting was held in the Fireside room.

Minutes from December were approved. Beau moved, Buffi seconded, ayes carried.

Bills and operating expenses from December were approved. Michelle moved, Sandra seconded, ayes carried.

Petty cash from December was approved. Sandra moved, Michelle seconded, ayes carried.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: Deb Allen: Christmas card/Thank you card (for poinsettia).

State Center Development Association/Doug, Juli, & Kris: Thank you card (for use of patio-heaters).

Mara Strickler from the Iowa Library Association sent information for people who wanted to make private donations to the Rudd Public Library Relief Fund.

Friends of GPL Report: Friends submitted a copy of their December Board Meeting minutes. Jackie Barnes presented the highlights, which included:

- Christmas on Main: The event served its primary purpose of strengthening appearance and building community.
- Little Free Library: Friends continues their partnership with WM to build five Little Libraries. Three tentative locations for installation have been set. Discussion continues regarding possible locations for the remaining two.
- Subscription Box Service: The board approved Mara's request for \$600 in funding towards the service.
- Board & Members: Two new members have joined. Election of board officers has been tabled until the regular January meeting.

Thank you Friends!

Board Education Report: Sandra Nyberg: Advocacy in Action

Primary Take-Away: Defend intellectual freedom by providing access to all points of view.

Old Business:

- **Policy Review-Board By-Laws:** Mara submitted an updated Board By-Laws Policy. Revisions were based on Board decision from the December meeting.
 - Article VII: General. Section 2. reads: "The signature(s) of the Treasurer and/or President will be required on board checks to pay bills." (Previously: "Only the signature of the Treasurer will be required on board checks to pay bills.").

Michelle made a motion to approve the Board By-Law Policy, as submitted. Buffi seconded, ayes carried.

New Business:

- **ProQuest Ancestry Renewal:** The board discussed the possibility of renewing the ProQuest (Ancestry) Subscription. Points of discussion focused on cost (\$1,526.46 annually), determining frequency of use, increasing use, and advertising the service.
 - **Advertising:** Mara will continue to advertise the service via the GPL newsletter. Additionally, she would like to host a Beginning Genealogy program to generate interest in the database. As an incentive for participating, attendees will have a chance to win a DNA kit (one winner selected raffle-style among attendees). The kit will be purchased through Ancestry and paid for with petty cash.
 - **Connections:** Mara will connect with Joan Bogart (Historical Society) and Andrea Tollefson (WM librarian) for potential collaboration and advertisement. Reaching out to upper-level teachers, specifically history/social studies teachers was also discussed.

No motion was made. A vote for the subscription renewal will be tabled until March.

- **Policy Review-Personnel:** The board reviewed and discussed the Personnel Policy.
 - Update Recommendation: Strike the third sentence from the vacation paragraph.
 - “Vacations: [First two sentences] ~~Pay will be calculated at the average weekly pay of the preceding year.~~ [Remaining paragraph...]”

Michelle made a motion to approve the updated Personnel Policy, Beau seconded, ayes carried.

Director’s Report: The Director's Report was approved. Michelle moved, Don seconded, ayes carried.

Sandra moved to adjourn, Don seconded, ayes carried.

Next meeting: February 3rd, 2022 7:00pm

Submitted by Sandra Nyberg