

G.C. Community Library

Board Minutes

September 11, 2019

- (1) Board Members attending: Amy Gallagher, Stacy Bluedorn, Heather Leskanic, Lynda Bortz, Mauri Smith  
Director attending: Amy Gallagher  
Employees Attending: Heather Baker, Linda Gerber, Sean Newton, Wendy Riggi  
Also attending: Renee Coyne, Amy Geisinger, Sue Miklos, Erin Pisano, Ben Wilkinson
- (2) Amy called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and opened with prayer.
- (3) The first order of business was to accept the formal resignation of Amy as board president due to her being named the library's new director. Board members accepted the resignation. Amy will remain the library's liaison to the Grove City Borough Council, of which she is a member. Stacy B. then nominated Erin Pisano to serve as the library board's new president. Heather Leskanic provided a second to the motion. Motion carried. A welcome was also extended to new member Mauri Smith.
- (4) A presentation was made to the board by Ben Wilkinson of Wilkinson Books in Sandy Lake. Mr. Wilkinson provides storage and organizational assistance to book sales for area libraries including Slippery Rock and Oil City. Erin said our biggest issue right now is storage for the donated books as well as the time/effort of setting up the sale and the 2-week process of the annual sale each August at the Grove City library. This year, Friends of the Library members that host the sale had to turn away a lot of books due to lack of storage space. Mr. Wilkinson stores all of his books in stackable bins, which keeps everything organized. Books are color coded and sorted by author alphabetically. Collections of popular authors are also sorted out. Heather Baker said she contacted library directors from the area libraries that are already using Mr. Wilkinson's services. She said she heard very positive reviews with the physical sales as he is able to provide up to 25,000 books (all varieties) for a single sale that typically lasts 2 to 3 days off-site. We would continue to collect donated books at the library and set aside any books FOL members wanted for their year-round book shop. Mr. Wilkinson would be able to pick up the donated books regularly, then process them and store them in his warehouse. He also provides online sales of books. Further discussion is expected on the proposal with the FOL before a decision is made. Both the library board and the FOL group would need to sign a contract with Wilkinson.
- (5) District consultant Amy Geisinger provided data to the group regarding the low level of funding received from local municipalities. Her stats showed Grove City Library receives between \$1.92 and \$2.83 per capita from the four participating municipalities. Amy Gallagher noted Grove City Borough's contribution is much higher than the \$1.92 reported due to the library being housed in the borough building. The borough pays all utilities for our library as well as provides supplies and maintenance assistance. Amy Geisinger also discussed the benefits of a countywide library system.

- (6) Minutes from the April meeting were approved. Stacy made motion to approve with second from Lynda. Motion carried.
- (7) Treasurer's Report: Stacy said the audit is pretty much completed. We have received the investment statement, which shows an ending account balance of \$473,597.35 as of Aug. 31. We have withdrawn a little over \$60,000 this year. Heather L. made motion to approve the treasurer's report; Mauri seconded. Motion carried.
- (8) Library Director's Report (from Amy Gallagher):
- **New carpet.** New carpeting has been installed in the children's area and the program room. 😊 Heather Baker did a phenomenal job in fundraising for this project, Amy said. We received a \$500 discount due to a mistake concerning a double order of carpet being delivered to the installers. As a result, we were able to install new carpet squares in the program room. Additional carpeting is to be placed in individual offices in the next few weeks.
  - **Book drop.** Looking at purchasing a portable book drop to place outside the library. This would free up space in the children's area, where we can add shelving. Also, it would help ease security concerns since the current drop features an opening in the building. Heather B. said she has found a refurbished, fireproof book drop that is the size we need for about \$5,000. Mauri made motion we approve the purchase of the new book drop as it is a worthwhile investment and will resolve safety and space issues. A \$600 donation has already been earmarked for this purchase. Lynda provided a second; motion carried.
  - **FOL donation.** We have received a post-book sale donation of \$6,500 from the group. 😊 The book sale brought in around \$5,000 this year, which is about average.
  - **Community outreach.** Amy invited board members to promote the library and its programs at their respective municipalities' regular meetings. Also, interested members are welcome to call donors and thank them for their contributions. The library has a list of available names and numbers. Library officials are continuing to review current programs while working to determine where we need to grow from here. We have been growing our adult programming with book clubs, outreach to local nursing facilities and technology courses.
  - **Personnel.** Amy said we now have three teen-age girls working part-time at the library. This is a nice opportunity for them to get job experience, and they are working out well.

*Children's programming (from Heather B.)*

- **Summer reading.** It was a crazy busy summer with 612 summer reading signups and 72 programs in 6 ½ weeks ! Heather said lots of teen volunteers and Charms Club girls were able to help with shelving all summer. 😊 The space/universe theme was the basis for a number of programs, including a visit to a planetarium.
- The annual **Star Wars event** will be held the third Saturday in October, and plans are underway for the annual Halloween party.
- **Christmas Marketplace.** This is the best response we've had yet for Christmas Marketplace. We are already at capacity for inside (27 vendors paid) plus we will have additional outdoor space available with a heated tent. The craft show will again feature homemade soups for sale. It is held the second Saturday in November.

- Our **Strawberry Days cheesecake booth** earned \$972.94 this year. A total of \$1,638.16 was sold while expenses came in at \$665.22. Heather B. organizes and manages this event.

*Adult programming (from Linda G)*

- **Professional Organizing Night.** This event, featuring guest speaker Dianne Warner, was one of our largest adult programs. The signup sheet filled so quickly people were calling to see if we were having another session.
- **Senior time.** Linda enjoys her monthly visits to the local senior care facilities. Each visit includes storytime and a craft they can make and keep or give to family. “They refer to me as Linda from the library,” she said, and what starts as quiet groups ends up being interacting seniors with smiling faces.
- **Cooking the Books with Julia Child.** An upcoming session will feature recipes from Childs’ “Mastering the Art of French Cooking” plus a showing of the movie, *Julie and Julia*.
- **Adult Summer Reading.** This program brought in record numbers with more than 100 participants. Linda said she is grateful to the FOL group for allowing her the funds to purchase prizes that encouraged adults to sign up and read.
- **Girls Night Out.** The wedding edition was a blast with attendees wearing their gowns and watching *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*. The next Night Out on Sept. 14 will feature a pajama and potluck party with a *Bad Moms* movie and homemade snacks !
- **Monthly newsletters.** Linda prepares the library’s monthly newsletters. They are offered online, posted on our website, and in paper copy at the front desk. All dates and times for adult and children’s programs are included.

(9) Friends of the Library Report: No formal report was available. This month, the group named a new president (Renee Coyne) and treasurer (Sue Miklos).

(10) Unfinished Business: None.

(11) New Business: None.

(12) Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

**Next meeting is Oct. 9.**

Minutes submitted by Heather Leskanic, board secretary, on Oct. 1, 2019.