



AGENDA
RIDGWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Friday January 5th at 1:00 p.m.
Ridgway Public Library
300 Charles Street

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1:03pm.

Attendees: Trustees: Julie Duff, Alison Etheridge, Sandy Hennessy, Julie Herrmann, Sally Trapp, Jenny Williams. Library Director: Amy Baer

Approval of Prior Minutes: Alison moved to accept the December 8, 2023 meeting minutes, Julie H. seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Friday, Feb 2, 2024 at 1pm

Public Comments:

Kathy Elmont, a resident of Ouray, thanked the board of trustees for the decision to lower the mill levy. She also shared her appreciation of Amy as library director and of the library as a community resource.

Friends of the Library Update: Abby informed Amy that the Friends of the Library received another \$7,000 that they deposited earlier in the week.

Action and Discussion Items:

1. Interviews/Terms for new Board of Trustees
 - a. The board interviewed Dee Moore, who had submitted a letter of interest.
 - b. The board interviewed Heather Patterson, who had submitted a letter of interest.
 - c. The board interviewed Donna Ball, who had submitted a letter of interest.
 - d. The board discussed where the candidates' strengths might best serve the library.
 - i. A motion was made to offer Dee a position on the board for the 1-year term. Alison moved, Jenny seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- ii. A motion was made to offer Heather a position on the board for the 2-year term. Jenny moved, Sandy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. The board agreed that Donna's experience and interest in planning events and activities focused on children seemed well suited for the Friends of the Library.
 - iv. As board president, Sally will contact each applicant.
- 2. Board retreat date and 2024 meeting schedule
 - The board retreat is scheduled for Saturday, March 23, 10am-3pm. Topics and agenda will be discussed at the next regular board meeting on Feb 2.
 - The following meeting schedule was agreed upon for 2024 (meetings will be the second Thursday of each month at 1pm unless otherwise noted):
 - Feb 2 (Friday)
 - March 14
 - May 9
 - June 13
 - Sept 12
 - Oct 10
 - Nov 14
 - Dec 12
 - The board will not meet in April, July, or August.

Treasurer's Report:

- Julie Duff shared updates on the 2023 budget, which showed that the library was under budget for all categories and over budget for revenues. Final numbers for 2023 will be presented at the next session.
- For 2024, the library will be able to give even more back to the county than we planned because of an unexpected backfill of \$23,279. We will give back \$170,914 to the county. The 2024 mill levy is 1.9%, reduced from 2.8%. Sandy moved to approve the 2024 budget as presented, Sally seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The trustees signed all relevant budget documents.

Director's Report - Amy Baer

- 2023 statistics: There were more than 55,000 patron visits in 2023, which is 15,000 more than last year and which exceeds pre-Covid visits. There were also more than 1,000 meeting room reservations. The library borrowed 2,425 items from other libraries but shared 3,000, which suggests that we're doing a good job meeting community interests and needs.
- The new Streamline website would be launching any minute!
- All library staff received year-end bonuses.
- In outreach news, the food pantry shared a thank you note for the library's support for the hat, sock and food donations. Additionally, a former participant in a Spanish conversational group plans to reestablish the group on the last Thursday of each month.

Future Agenda Items

- At the February 2 meeting, the board plans to elect officers for 2024 and plan the agenda for the board retreat.

Sally moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:22pm, Julie H. seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.