

# Oskaloosa Library Board of Trustees

## Minutes

17 July 2023

### Board Members Present:

President, Doug Bond; Secretary, Greg Barnard; Treasurer, Erin Subelka; Stephanie Spencer; Heath Flax; Lori Whaley; Kim Smith; Librarian, Sammy Smith.

Call to Order: The Board opened in regular session at 6:11 pm.

Correspondence: There was none to report.

Minutes: After brief review the June minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as submitted, with minimal discussion.

### Director's Report:

Filling in for the vacationing Cheryl, Sammy reported that things seemed to be going well with the recently-installed HVAC system.

With regard to the Library's collection and resources, she indicated that the staff, after several requests, was planning to acquire a number of the Paramount + television series titles. One patron had inquired about the Library's stopping of the Topeka Capital Journal.

Both the morning book club and the Storytime Program were taking a break in August.

There was some brief conversation on the merits of something like a FOOLS-Board get-together, and possible ways of making the Mystery gathering a bigger event.

Sammy noted that the Summer Reading program attendance had totaled 253 (though she was uncertain whether that figure included parents attending).

### Discussion Items:

Among the Agenda's items for discussion, the first raised concerned the Library's relationship with the Township. Doug offered that we should probably add an agenda item for the Board's August meeting to focus on the decreasing annual mil levy-- 1.589 in 2022, 1.410 in 2023, a proposed 1.266 for 2024. Much discussion ensued, with a general understanding that much further clarification is needed

regarding the nature of the Library's legal position and financial relationship with the Township (which meets Saturday mornings at the Firestation).

With respect to earlier discussions concerning a "memo of understanding" with FOOLS (and Doug's email on the subject) there was more of the same-- Friends' new structuring, ways for Friends and Board to grow together, how to better engage the community, especially younger members.

Discussion of our Strategic Plan-- Focus Area 2 melded together with the previous discussion.

There was much talk, and no little confusion, around the current "policy manual," its state of disarray, how to proceed in reviewing it. There seemed to be consensus that we need to generate a more or less clean, clear copy of such policy manual to work from. Kim moved to table further considerations of policy review until we had such.

#### New Business:

Cheryl's suggestion regarding the creation of a separate bank account for the handling of "designated funds" resulted in some discussion of the logistics of managing monies and accounting and reporting matters. Lori moved that we authorize opening a new account specifically for such "designated funds;" Heath seconded; the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Heath volunteered to spearhead the institution of a families' or groups' tag-team passing of responsibility for the "sponsoring" of future Storyboard Walks. His suggestion met with much approbation from the Board's members.

No Old Business being raised, **the Board adjourned** at 8:05.