

MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY

Board Meeting

213 Adams Street, JC Chamber Board Room

Jefferson City, Missouri

March 19, 2024

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The regular Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Bob Priddy.

1. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Members present: President Bob Priddy, Treasurer Kay Kasiske, Secretary Jessica Davis and members: Lori Bruce, John Gulick, Samantha Mebruer, Rodney Mulvania, Anne Rottmann and Robert Swift

Member(s) absent: Ithaca Bryant, Jeff Briggs, Becky Layton, Steve Nelson and Anne Steele

Also present: Claudia Young, Library Director; Angie Bayne, Assistant Director of Public Services; Debra Winter, Business Manager and Accountant; and Robin Coffman, Administrative Assistant

President Priddy and Library Director Claudia Young introduced newly appointed MRRL Board members Lori Bruce and Robert Swift, both of whom represent Cole County.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

By way of a note mailed to President Priddy, library patron, Cynthia Keele Johnson, relayed her support of the library resources and services to the community.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kay Kasiske made a motion, seconded by Anne Rottmann, to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF MONTHLY EXPENDITURES

Kay Kasiske reviewed the monthly financial report (Attachments A & B) with the Board. Kay Kasiske made a motion, seconded by Rodney Mulvania, to approve the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Expenditures. Motion carried.

Debra Winter, Business Manager and Accountant, reported that the library's annual audit will be conducted at the end of April.

5. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Claudia Young first welcomed the newest Board members – Lori Bruce, Samantha Mebruer and Robert Swift, and indicated that she was able to conduct new board member orientation prior to the MRRL Board meeting.

Claudia also indicated that April 27th is the date for the Board's retreat to begin the planning process for developing a new/revamped strategic plan. She will send reminders of the upcoming retreat via email.

Claudia also reminded Board members that department reports contained in Board packets lag one month; for example, February events are reported on in March.

Claudia reported that she attended the annual Advocacy Day at the Capitol in February, and brought to the attention of the Board two legislative bills which have been filed pertaining to public libraries. These include House Bill (HB) 2498 and HB 2648. Both bills include the aspect that members of library boards would be required to run for election, rather than be appointed. She encouraged board members to watch bills that gain traction through the legislative process that would impact public libraries.

Claudia also reported that the library has agreed to host a graphic design intern for 16 weeks this summer. This student attends Columbia College. The intern's work will be used to target different clusters of patrons with specific information. The Board asked that the student be given the opportunity to provide feedback related to her experience at the end of the internship.

Claudia pointed out two fliers included in the Board packet from the Missouri State Library and MOREnet regarding public libraries' access, funding and impact statewide.

Claudia also indicated that she had been invited to and spoke at a Knights of Columbus event. She believes it was a positive experience and she is always happy to present to community organizations.

And finally, Claudia and Angie Bayne reported on the conclusion of the annual used book sale sponsored by MRRL and ABLE. Angie has coordinated and managed the book sale for the past two years. Revenue generated totaled approximately \$54,000 which is split between the two organizations. They also reported that leftover books are donated to Better World Books, an organization that supports literacy programs. It was mentioned that the used book sale at the Osage County Branch is scheduled for April 4-6.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Capital Facilities Committee (vacant)

Claudia Young reported that this committee met immediately following the February 20th MRRL Board meeting; she will have information to present to the Board at its April 16, 2024 meeting.

B. Executive Committee (Bob Priddy) No Report

C. Finance Committee (Kay Kasiske) No Report

D. Foundation Liaison (Steve Nelson)

Claudia Young reported that the Foundation's mini-golf fundraising events had 25 individuals participate at the Osage Branch in Linn and 204 individuals participated at the main library.

- E. Marketing/Communications Committee** (Jeff Briggs) No Report
- F. Planning Committee** (Ithaca Bryant) No Report
- G. Bylaws Committee** (Bob Priddy) No Report

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Planning for the Future

1. Update on Repairs to Library

Claudia reported that both elevators in the main library have, now, been repaired and are in operation.

Other

President Priddy reported that he had a discussion with County Commissioners and Cole County is interested in acquiring the current library building in Jefferson City if in future, the Board of Trustees determines to seek to acquire or build a new facility in a different location. Discussion ensued regarding potential locations including the old Missouri penitentiary site in Jefferson City. Any action would require the public to approve a tax levy increase for this purpose. It should be noted that the Jefferson City-Cole County Library and MRRL Boards are still in the process of re-evaluating on whether to bring a tax levy increase proposal back to the public, when and what that may look like.

Discussion also emphasized the need to ensure ample patron parking for any library location. It was also discussed that the community must step forward to address its unhoused (homeless) situation that continues to be handed off to library staff.

Mr. Priddy reiterated that all options are on the table, and he prompted board members to think big and to search for options that can benefit the entire community.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting minutes approved April 16, 2024.