

Prairielands Governing Board Meeting
Thursday, September 2, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
Online
Marshall, MN

Present: Deb Lanthier, Public Library Representative; Kate Borowske, Academic Library Representative; Dennis Ulrich, Pioneerland Library Representative; Deb Forbrook, School Library Representative; Shelly Grace, Prairielands; Maureen Keimig, Prairielands.

Vice-President Lanthier called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Borowske motioned to accept agenda as given; Ulrich seconded. Motion carried.

(Agenda Item 3) There were no additions or corrections to the June 4, 2021, Governing Board Meeting minutes. Borowske motioned to approve the minutes; Forbrook seconded. Motion carried.

Special Guest: Matt Taubert (Accountant): Auditor's Report

Matt Taubert presented the Auditor's Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, to the Board. Result of Internal Audit Report showed no instances of non-compliance other than 'lack of segregation of duties' and 'lack of someone with expertise to do financial duties', which are common in a small organization like Prairielands. Ulrich motioned to approve the Auditor's report as presented; Borowske seconded. Motion carried.

(Agenda Item 4) Prairielands Activities

Twenty-one libraries registered for the 2021 Teen Summer Read Grant. Prairielands has already reimbursed \$1,025 in grant funds. Prairielands has started taking applications for the TeenTober Grant and five libraries have applied so far. There were almost 200 participants for this year's virtual Camp Read-A-Lot. Some of the high numbers were partially due to the fact that it was the only one in the state, though some years two other regions hold camp. Hopefully, next year will be in person instead of virtual.

Grace discussed enrolling participants in an online professional development opportunity 'Youth Work Matters' through the State Extension, for the 2022 Teen Summit. The school library funds of about \$9,000 are being funneled through the Multitypes. That would amount to approximately \$75.00 per library if every school library member applied. Grace would like to use some of the Prairielands reserve funds to supplement this amount for a collection development grant. Grace advised the Board of the Member Council's suggestion that the amount should be \$500 to make it worthwhile for the libraries to apply. Because of input from the School Library Committee, Grace suggested that 25% of it should be spent on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion materials. One Board member suggested including a suggested book list for the school librarians. Grace also asked the Board about using the reserve funds to offer scholarships for diversity training for the school librarians.

Forbrook motioned to approve the expanded budget for the ARPA funds and support for diversity training for school librarians; Borowske seconded. Motion carried.

(Agenda Item 5) Director's Report, June - August. Grace reviewed her Director's Report with the Board.

(Agenda Item 6 a-d) Financials

Grace reviewed the Financials with the Board. Borowske motioned to accept the quarterly financial report and funds review as presented; Forbrook seconded. Motion carried.

(Agenda Item 7) Strategic Plan

Grace has worked on the strategic plan during the last quarter.

(Agenda Item 8) Open Meetings

Grace talked to the Board about the open meeting laws that Prairielands must abide by for in person meetings.

Grace mentioned to the Board that the Member Council didn't believe there would be much interest in suggestions made at a previous Board meeting for collection development. The Board discussed and decided against the Member Council's suggestion of using the funds toward purchasing books for public library book clubs. Grace will ask the Member Council for other ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.