

Prairielands Governing Board Meeting

Saturday, December 5, 2020 – 10 a.m.

Online

Minutes

Present: Jan Louwagie, Special Library Representative; Abigail Duly, Pioneerland Library Representative; Deb Lanthier, Public Library Representative; Dennis Ulrich, Pioneerland Library Representative; Deb Forbrook, School Library Representative; Shelly Grace, Prairielands, and Maureen Keimig, Prairielands.

President Louwagie called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Duly motioned to adopt the agenda with the date of the minutes amended to September 3, 2020; Lanthier seconded. Motion carried.

(Agenda Item 3) Lanthier motioned to approve the September 3, 2020, minutes; Duly seconded. Motion carried.

(Agenda Item 4) Prairielands Activities

Fifteen libraries applied for the TeenTober Grant, so far \$1883.61 has been reimbursed with just two libraries left to submit their reimbursement paperwork.

Grace refreshed the Members Council's memories on Prairielands 2020, which had been presented to the Governing Board by a former member who thought that Prairielands should use some of the reserve funds for assisting libraries. Grace had asked the Member Council if they would be supportive of Prairielands using funds to study how libraries can work with local social services to help patrons. The Council had questions and concerns that, if Prairielands pays for the study, whether the libraries would act on its recommendations. Grace asked the Governing Board for input. One of the Governing Board members asked if Prairielands could reward libraries that follow through with the information they receive. Another Board member asked if Prairielands could start with something on a smaller scale. Grace will follow up on the suggestions and research the possibility of assisting libraries in setting up kiosks or secure meeting areas for patrons to use.

There were no minutes to review for the School Library Committee since they did not meet.

(Agenda Item 5) Director's Report, September – November. Grace reviewed her Director's Report with the Board. Grace has three presentations set up for the online conferences scheduled in February 2021. Michele Leininger will talk about keeping the Marshall-Lyon Library open during a pandemic, Audrey Betcher from Rochester Library will talk about working with social services, and Stacy Lienemann from Waseca-Le Sueur Library will talk about transitioning their Folk Festival to a virtual event. The theme of the conferences will be pivoting in response to COVID.

(Agenda Item 6 a-b) Financials

Grace reviewed the Financials with the Board. Ulrich motioned to accept the quarterly financial report and funds review as presented; Forbrook seconded. Motion carried. Duly motioned to accept the revised FY2021 budget as presented; Lanthier seconded. Motion carried.

(Agenda Item 7) Strategic Plan

Two Community Conversations took place in September and October. The first was on programming, the second one on school/public library cooperation. The third one on advocacy, that was scheduled in November, was not attended. Grace thought this may have been due to the fact that it was scheduled the day before Thanksgiving. Grace plans on rescheduling that topic another time. Grace had asked for input from the Teen Co-op and Member Council on more collaborative programming for libraries which is a part of the Prairielands Strategic Plan. Grace asked the Governing Board for input on what Prairielands can do to help all libraries in a cooperative way. One example of collaborative programming that Prairielands has already implemented are the Teen Programming Kits.

(Agenda Item 8) Election of Vice-President

Lanthier nominated herself for Vice-President. Duly's term on the Governing Board ends at the end of December. Duly motioned for Lanthier to be elected Vice-President; Ulrich seconded. Motion carried. Prairielands thanks Duly for all her years of service on the Governing Board.

Duly motioned to adjourn; Lanthier seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.