

Meeting Minutes

Valley City Barnes County Public Library Board

Date: April 20, 2023

Hilde van Gijssel, Deedra Froemke, Annie Beauchman,
Anita Tulp (Director)
Via Zoom: Melissa Lloyd (assistant Director)
Absent: Dewey Magnuson, Vicky Lovell

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Hilde van Gijssel at 5:32pm.

Additions to Agenda

Office painting proposal, middle room remodel proposal, additional board member application.

Minutes

The minutes from the March 16, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Deedra Froemke motioned to approve; Annie Beauchman second. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Anita Tulp went over the financials that were emailed previously. We are ¼ though and should be at 25% and we are at 22.7% currently. Mills have been received from both city and county. Deedra Froemke motioned to approve the financials as presented; Annie Beauchman second. Motion carried.

Roll Call: Vicky Lovell: A Deedra Froemke: Y
 Hilde van Gijssel: Y Annie Beauchman: Y
 Dewey Magnuson: A

Director's Report

An email version was sent out previously. Anita Tulp went over a few items on the report. We are still waiting on a plumber for the broken toilet and quotes for the roofing issues. Travis is back and Sarah will be back next week so will be fully staffed and getting ready for summer learning. National Library Week is next week and an article was sent to the TR to promote. The Read Before They're Gone displays have been popular and have brought forth a lot of conversation and questions. SB2360 went to appropriations and was given a "do not pass" due to costs. Hilde calculated the cost to our library would be \$18,000 to \$54,000 per month to pay someone to do the reading only should this bill pass.

Committee Reports

Building Committee – Director Anita Tulp gave an update on the roof project. We are still waiting to hear back from contractors.

Old Business

The proposal to add a youth board member was revisited after Vicky Lovell received input from the state's attorney's office. Since one of the responsibilities of the board is to enter into contracts, it is not recommended to have a minor serve on the board, as they cannot enter into a legally binding contract. It still remains an option to have a youth advisory member, which will be discussed at a later time.

We have received three applications to fill the vacant board position. The consensus was that we will send all three names to the city commission for them to decide and appoint.

Director Anita Tulp is still waiting to hear back from state auditor. She did receive some info from the state library to move things along in the meantime.

Anita will gauge interest on Aflac insurance at the next staff meeting. We are not able to be a part of the city's "pool" and would need to start our own, which requires a certain number of participating employees.

The offer for pro bono legal representation concerning the current legislation was reviewed again and individual employees are encouraged to sign up if they choose. Library boards are not recommended to sign on, therefore the VCBC Board will not be revisiting the matter for a vote. The board appreciates those that have signed up and showed their support.

New Business

Demolition was due to begin next week on the middle room remodel but there was an issue with the building permit that is being worked out. Kohn Electric was contacted for a proposal to do some work on the new nook. Deedra Froemke motioned to move forward with the project and accept the bid from Connect Interiors for \$15068.75; Annie Beauchman second.

Roll Call: Vicky Lovell: A Deedra Froemke: Y
 Hilde van Gijssel: Y Annie Beauchman: Y
 Dewey Magnuson: A

Hilde van Gijssel contacted the insurance company about the roof and water damage and we can file a claim to repair the interior damage. We would pay a deductible of \$1000 and the claim would pay \$10k.

Library staff have requested of the board that we take a stance against the legislation. Anita gave an update from the staff meeting and they feel unsupported by the board. Hilde, Annie and Deedra will work together to draft a statement and will review it with the board and have it published. Hilde will reach out to the commissions for public support as well.

The engagement letter from Nilles Lawyers regarding representation was reviewed. Deedra Froemke motioned to approve the retainer at \$1000; Annie Beauchman second. Deedra will work with Anita to get the paperwork signed.

Roll Call: Vicky Lovell: A Deedra Froemke: Y
 Hilde van Gijssel: Y Annie Beauchman: Y
 Dewey Magnuson: A

We have received a request from NICOA for job training opportunities at the library at no cost. Anita will reach out to see if our accommodations will be acceptable to the organization. Hilde van Gijssel motioned to approve; Annie Beachman second. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Deedra Froemke motioned to adjourn at 6:40pm; Annie Beachman second. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

**Thursday, May 18th, 2023
5:30pm**