HERRICK DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

Holland, Michigan
March 28, 2019

Members Present
Kleinheksel, Gurumurthy, Kool, Marroquin, Petzak

Member Absent
Barry, Dewey, Van Allsburg

Staff
Director Kooiker, Assistant Director Cook, North Branch Manager Carpenter, Youth Services Manager Rios

2019-16 Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Kool, 2nd by Petzak, the agenda was approved at 4:08 p.m.

2019-17 Consent Agenda

Upon a motion by Marroquin, 2nd by Kool, the consent agenda items were approved.

2019-18 Budget Performance Report

Assistant Director Cook presented reports on the budget through February 28, 2019.

2019-19 Citizen’s Comments

Royetta Doe and Marsha Dekker from the Daughters of the American Revolution presented public comments. Doe asked the library to reconsider the policy of only allowing an individual group two room bookings per month. Dekker presented concern that a public meeting held at the library by the Daughters of the American Revolution was not publicized by the library. Dekker also presented concern that the Daughters of the American Revolution organization was denied the opportunity to put up a display at the main library during Constitution Week.

2019-20 DIRECTOR’S REPORT: March 2019

1. Staffing: Nicole DeRoo has joined our team as a library page.

2. Legislation: There are three new bills introduced in the House to restore libraries and librarians in every school in the state. While this is not directly related to public libraries it is certainly of interest to us. These bills hope to impact the literacy challenges in our state.

3. Naturalization Ceremonies: According to staff, the Naturalization Ceremonies were moving and powerful. The Herrick Library was host to two naturalization ceremonies on February 21, 2019; one at 10:00am, one at 1:30pm. When I returned, I talked with the USCIS and they were also pleased with the space and response. They have asked us to host two more dates of ceremonies and we will host two ceremonies on Friday, April 19, and two ceremonies on Thursday, May 16, 2019. We will likely be changing the number of candidates for citizenship to 65 from 80 because of the incredible number of family members joining them here. These ceremonies are open to the public and I encourage all of you to attend as well.
4. Café: Lisa Homik from Joe to Go has decided that they are not able to make the café here at the library a profitable venture and are going to close the café permanently on April 26th. I am looking to place vending machines here for snack and beverage purposes while we decide our next course of action for the café.

5. Fines free update: I do not have any hard evidence for you at this point, but I have been hearing anecdotal evidence from our community. At a recent community outreach event one parent thanked us profusely for eliminating fines on children’s material. She said it will allow her children to check out again because she does not have the fear of overdue fines when she is not able to get the items back on the exact date. Others from a youth services outreach expressed similar gratitude and renewed interest in using our resources. Kent District Library has just voted to be completely fines free for all their materials and GRPL will remove fines from their children’s and teen’s materials in three weeks.

6. The cooperative will begin an automatic renewal program on April 1, 2019. Currently we allow two renewals by either logging onto your account online and renewing items or calling to renew items. When an item is not renewed on time there is a fine. With the new enhancement in our software and by decision of the Lakeland ILS Council the renewals will now be automatic renewals for all items that are renewable, and they will be renewed on the day they are due. It is not changing the number of renewals, but it is less likely that there will be fines until after the second renewal due date. Cooperatively we think this will be a great service for our patrons.

7. Seed library has launched for 2019 and is available both at the Main Library and North Side Branch.

2019-21 President’s Report

President Kleinheksel recommended an addition to the monthly agenda of “Trustee’s Comments” to follow the President’s Report section. The purpose of the Trustee Comment agenda item is for trustees to have a chance to report on what they are hearing from their municipalities. The library’s bylaws would allow for this addition to the agenda.

2019-22 Committee Reports

Building Committee meet on March 14, 2019 for firm interviews, next meeting is June 13, 2019; Finance Committee meeting scheduled for May 9, 2019; Policy/Personnel next meeting is April 11, 2019.

2019-23 Architect for North Branch Renovation

Upon a motion by Kool, 2nd by Gurumurthy, a motion passed to award a bid for architectural services for the North Branch expansion to Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber.

2019-24 Meet Up & Eat Up Breakfast Fridays at the Main Library

Upon a motion by Kool, 2nd by Petzak, a motion passed to provide a library sponsored program offering breakfast at the library on Friday mornings during the summer months to children who receive free and reduced lunch during the school year.

2019-25 Gifts

Upon a motion by Marroquin, 2nd by Kool, a motion passed to accept with thanks the gifts given to the library the previous month.

2019-26 Adjournment

Upon a motion by Kool, the meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Submitted by Sara DeVries, Community Relations Manager, Board Clerk