

Marshalltown Public Library
Board of Trustees
November 16, 2021

Members Present: Tonya Gaffney, Allan Thoreson, Jim Lowrance, Ruzan Morrison
Absent: Chad Hammar, Judy Lindholm, Maureen Lyons
Staff: Joa LaVille, Sarah Rosenblum

President Tonya Gaffney called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Minutes of the October 19, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

Operating Bills: It was moved/seconded (Morrison/Lowrance) to approve the bills. Passed.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business:

A: Friends of the Library Update: The Friends have been notified they are the recipient of a large bequest which includes IRAs and a house to be sold. There are no restrictions for the use of the gift. The Friends authorized the purchase of a Play Touch Table for the youth department with a portion of that bequest.

B: Fines Discussion: The Board was asked again to consider eliminating fines for all materials except DVDs and lost and damaged items. The amount of fines collected has been down due to automatic renewals and the increased use of digital materials. Sarah advised that the city may ask for some reductions in other budget items to make up for the reduced revenue. She will pursue this with the city when she meets for the budget meeting.

C: Shade Structure: During the summer months and because of COVID precautions, Storytime was held outside on the lawn and proved to be successful. A sunshade that could be used for Storytime as well as other events is being looked at. Similar shades can be seen at the aquatic center and the High Street Head Start. Sarah will check with Park and Rec and the city planners for suggestions and vendors.

D: Staffing Update: Currently there are two vacant clerk positions with one pending interview.

E: Staff Reports:

Joa: Regular programs are happening, including Storytime, 6th grade visits and Pokémon. The latest Small Talk class is graduating this month. The ARL has been bringing animals once a month to Storytime. During Halloween, the library participated in "Haunt the Block," a CBD program. Over 300 books were given away during "Treat Yourself to Books." The on-going programs seem popular and they are looking at more come-and-go programs instead of one-time events. MHS students are assisting again with 1:1 tech help.

F: Director's Report: Planning for the spring Holocaust event continues. Michael Bornstein, the author of Survivors Club: The True Story of a Very Young Prisoner of Auschwitz, and the youngest Auschwitz survivor, may be coming to Marshalltown.

The city's annual strategic planning meeting will be held at the Coliseum. The public and new City Council members are invited. There has been no feedback on the new budget. Katie has been working on the new Envisionware program—experiencing some hiccups.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

The next meeting will be December 21, 2021.

****NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING DATE: The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 14, 2021**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.