

**Minutes of the Fennville District Library  
Board of Trustees**

*March 21, 2024 at 4:00 pm*  
Regular Meeting

**Present:** Midge Bernard, Bob Sherwood, Willow Vandenberg, Kathleen Yankee, Marilyn Jessup

**Absent:** Robin Buchler, Dennis Martin, Donna Matula

**Staff present:** Teresa Kline

**Observers present:** None

**Meeting called to order:** 4:00 pm, by Sherwood, Vice President

**Approval of Agenda:** *It was moved by Yankee, seconded by Bernard, to approve the agenda as amended. Carried 5-0.*

**Approval of the Minutes:** *It was moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Bernard, to approve the minutes of February 15, 2024. Carried 5-0.*

**Correspondence:** From Ignite Credit Union (Parent to Allegan Community Credit Union): Notice of merger with Blue Ox CU. Signature from Board since we are a member. *It was moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Jessup, to support the merger by signing the document presented. Carried, 5-0*

**Financial and Budget Performance Report:**

- Millage money is coming in nicely; penal fines are OK
- State Aid came in last week
- Income and expenses are about the same as the last couple of years
- After reviewing the “Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual” Sheet and the Balance Sheet for February 2024, they were received and filed.

**Director's Report:**

- Meetings attended: Lakeland Library Board and Council
- Martin Rosa is doing Spring Clean-up
- Bill's Tree Service removed a fallen branch from a white pine and two dead mulberry trees at a cost of \$800
- 80% of the outside lights were out; the bulbs have been replaced. The inside lights are fine.
- The new drinking fountain is installed and working fine after a little “tweaking”
- The Annual Report is done (attached)
- No Youth Activities handout, Monthly Circulation Statistics, or Door Count this month

**President's Remarks:** Congratulations to Teresa and staff for submitting successful proposals for grants

**Board Members' Remarks:** from Kathleen: re: MLA workshop

Be prepared for challenges on material  
Public Comments – can restrict individual time but not TOTAL time  
Board policy can be a non-response  
Can't limit what you say, but can manage how you say it  
As trustees, we represent everyone; we leave our personal beliefs behind us  
Miller test of pornography:  
Does it make you think of sex?  
Does it rise to the level of the whole community?  
Is there literary, educational merit to it?

**Committee Reports:** None

**Unfinished Business:**

Cleaning Services – It was moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Yankee, to contract with Calico Cleaning LLC for 12 months to clean the Library. Carried, 5-0

Insurance Claim – It was moved by Yankee, seconded by Jessup, to obtain another quote to repair the exterior siding damage of the overhang, as well as two or three quotes to repair the drywall damage inside, with which to dispute Allegan County's insurance company's low offer. Carried, 5-0

Parking Lot grant – It was moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Bernard, to pursue utilizing the Credit Union parking lot (next door) to expand our parking area . Carried, 5-0.

**New Business:**

**FOIA Requests (2)** – One was “the usual”, the other was for payments to vendors; @ 10 minutes each!

**Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities Grant** – Will be expanding materials for the blind and those with low vision (large print, audio and shelving); will be having conversations with those concerned in May; to be completed by end of summer, with everything purchased

**Michigan Notable Book Author Tour** – Richard Norton Smith, author of An Ordinary Man about Gerald Ford, will be here on May 30 @ 6:00. There will be book sales by BookNook and refreshments by the Friends of the Library

**Pay It Forward Month** – This is the second year we have done this. It was moved by Yankee, seconded by Vandenberg, to have “Pay it Forward Month” in April, as outlined in the attached proposal. Carried, 5-0

**Spring Institute for Youth Services** – Topics explored included the importance of play, “tender topic” kits (for dealing with grief, race, etc), creating a library escape room, evaluating library programs

**National Library Week**-- is April 7-13. National Library Workers day is Tuesday, April 9. In honor of our library workers, we will be sponsoring a staff appreciation pizza lunch at noon on Tuesday, April 9.

**Gifts** –None

**Public Comments** – None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Vice President Sherwood at 5:05.

Next meeting is April 18, 2024 at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Jessup, Secretary