Neosho Newton County Library Board Meeting

October 18, 2022

**Board Members Present:** Chris Yaudas, Beth Styron, Phyllis Blackwood, Tamie Williams, Jann Burnett and Karina Cole.

**Board Members Absent:** Keri Collinsworth, Jake Heisten, and Rick Keeling.

**Library Staff Present:** Carrie Cline

**Guests Present:** Patrice McDonald, Paragon ; Jim Stearman, Paragon

President Beth Styron called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Consent Agenda: Minutes, Budgeted Expenses, Financial Report**

Phyllis moved to accept the consent agenda and Jann seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Director’s Report:**

* Statistics were reviewed.
* The homeschool programs have been very well attended, with over 80-90 attendees at each.
* The mural has been successfully removed from the building, and should be back within one month, fully restored.
* The new mural that will be attached to the outside Annex wall is still being created.
* The current bank balance is $202,786.50.
* The recent Friends of the Library book sale earned over $1600.00. Many many items remained after the sale, and found a home with different agencies and thrift stores.
* Harry Potter Night was another great success. A huge thank-you to the entire staff, especially Pam and her team, for their hard work.
* Carrie discussed a recent issue with a problem patron that had to be banned from both libraries due to extreme behavior towards staff and other patrons.
* Secretary of State Ashcroft has created a proposed new administrative rule that can withhold state funding from any library that he considers inappropriate in their programming or book placement for minors. The ACLU and ALA are getting involved, and many parent groups object. It won’t go into effect until July of 2023, but Carrie will keep the board posted as it progresses.

**Old Business**

* The Paragon team presented a potential finished product for the Seneca building, both inside and outside. Carrie did find out who owns the little “bungalows” for future information.
* The board reviewed the staff’s answers to the questions posed to them. Their answers exhibited a deep devotion to the library, and an awareness of things we can improve. There weren’t any long-term goals that appeared, so we will work on those. Carrie will work on the Missouri Public Library Standards document, and see which areas we can improve on. We will aim for a board retreat on a Saturday morning in January, with an outside professional who can guide us in preparing a good Strategic Plan.

**New Business**

* Carrie asked if the board approved of the usual week off between Christmas and New Years for a deep cleaning and bug-spraying. The board approved of this, and considers it one more reason we can entice potential employees to work here. The library will be closed from December 24th to January 3rd.

Phyllis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Tamie seconded it, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Carrie Cline, Acting Secretary