



Library Board Meeting May 13, 2020 5:00 pm

- I. Call to Order
 - Minutes of the previous meeting
 - Financial Report
 - Director's update
- II. Business
 - Renewal of terms/officers
 - Report on steps taken during Safer at Home
 - Use of library building for meetings during Safer at Home
 - Summer Library Program
- III. Closing
 - Concerns and Comments
 - Next meeting date
 - Adjournment

The Owen Public Library Board met on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 5 pm with Debra Smith, Nancy Garrett, Lorelee Petersen, Roxana Reitz, Charlie Milliren, Sally Martine and Jeffer Scheuer in attendance.

The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved (MMSA Roxana/Nancy)

The Financial report was next and approved (MMSA Sally/Jeffer)

The director's update was presented and included a Child Development day in March; in Owen Business Expo with a local writer to sign books at our table, and a possible straw bale gardening presentation; National Library week and hosting artist Dustin Fredrick again for the Spring into the Arts tour.

The summer reading program may consist of a graphic novel class and a once a month storytime at the farmer's market.

Lorelee is also working on a plan to weed out of date reference materials.

Under new business the Public Library Annual Report and statement regarding system effectiveness were read and approved (MMSA Jeffer/Charlie)

The next meeting will be held April 15, 2020 at 5 PM

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 (MMSA Charlie/Sally)

Steps taken during Safer at Home

- The library was closed from March 23 through May 4 in response to the governor's Safer at Home order. During that time, Denise and Carol got very few hours and Katie worked for City Hall. I believe the Withee library's staff were paid for the time they were unable to work. Do we want to consider some sort of recompense for Denise and Carol?
- While we were closed I came in once or twice a week to sort the mail and empty the book drop. Books were quarantined for 72 hours before being checked in and shelved.
- While we were closed, I tried to highlight a number of programs being offered via the internet and promoted Wisconsin's digital library. Pat Eloranta also presented her Straw Bale Gardening Workshop via Zoom. I was concerned for people who didn't have the internet to keep them entertained. On the advice of a library colleague, I did some weeding. Denise and Carol took turns helping. Boxes of discarded books were given to the school and a senior apartment building. City Hall took boxes of books to offer to people who dropped off water payments. I added books to the Little Free Library twice and we also set out boxes at the library during pick up hours.
- Many libraries have been donating money to reduce holds on popular books on the digital library. So far, the concentration has been on adult and young adult books. I'd like to give some money towards reducing holds on children's books before summer reading starts.
- We are currently allowing people to request and pick up books on Monday and Friday from 12-4:00. Courier is running one day a week. At this time, we are trying to get all library materials back "home" again. No new requests are being processed but we hope that will happen soon. Now that voting is over and we've had a few successful days at this system, I think we will add Wednesday pick up hours.
- There is talk in library circles of going to the next stage of the Badger Bounce Back program when we are able, which would allow us to be open with up to 10 people in the building at a time. We are working on a game plan for that. Right now I am thinking that we might allow people to schedule half hour time slots for browsing/computer use. We are questioning whether we might need to reserve one computer for unemployment enrollment and allow people to book it for a longer time. Also considering if we need to close between appointments to disinfect frequently touched surfaces. And do we need to require masks? So many things to consider!!!

Summer Reading Program

1. Beanstack - The state of Wisconsin has invested in the Beanstack program, which can be accessed via a cell phone app. Each library will have their own account. Patrons can register to complete challenges set by the library. I'm working on setting up our page for this program.
2. Take & Make Crafts - On a Roll with Owen Public Library - We will be handing out craft kits to kids at the library. Kits may be finished using common household items (scissors, glue, tape, markers) and an empty toilet paper tube. Can you please save your toilet paper tubes over the summer so we can offer extras?
3. Early Literacy Program - We will invite those who signed up for the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program to complete a summer-long program of creating their own alphabet books. Sesame Street offers a coloring page for each letter with a Sesame Street Character. I

think we will send out the first page in the mail and invite the families to pick up a new sheet every week at the library. We'll hole punch all the sheets and create a special cover so that kids can gather the sheets into a book at the end of summer.

4. Comic Book Kids Challenge - I had planned to teach a class on graphic novels at summer school. Due to changes in the structure of summer school, I will not be teaching this. I'm trying to rework this into a challenge for kids to make their own comics, mostly using free resources from the internet. This would be aimed at older elementary students and maybe jr. high.