

Mission Statement

The Lewistown Public Library provides free and equal access to quality materials and services, which fulfill the educational, informational, cultural, and recreational needs of the entire community.

1:30 PM – Call to order – Roll call – Regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is called to order by Jean Collins. Trustees Present: Jean Collins, Arlene Mari, Andrea Payne (via Zoom), Mariah Shammel (via Zoom), Dani Buehler, Mary Callahan Baumstark (via Zoom, see note below). Library Staff Present: Alissa Wolenetz and Drew Kettering.

Appoint Recorder of Minutes: Drew Kettering.

Reading of the Mission Statement: Jean Collins.

Revisions to the Agenda

• Arlene notes that the agenda header date for this meeting needs to be updated to 2024.

Comments for the Good of the Library:

- Jean welcomes Dani Buehler to the Board and reads a thank you card from Gayle Doney.
- Alissa relays a story from Chiara about a toddler who enjoys storytime immensely.

Disposition of November 2023 Minutes

- In the November 2023 meeting minutes, the spelling of Arlene's name needs correction.
- Mariah moves to approve November 2023 minutes as amended. Andrea 2nd. All in favor.

Financial Reports

November 2023 claims are pending. Andrea moves to approve December 2023 claims.
Mariah 2nd. All in favor.

Discussion of Director's Report

Commemorations

 Drew presented options for honoring Nancy Watts, including establishing a local history day on Nancy's birthday or renaming the Special Collections in her honor. Donations in Nancy's memory can be made to the Cancer Center. Alissa will update the Board if the librarians make a joint memorial.

• Chili Bowl

 Gross income for Chili Bowl totaled over \$4,000, a new record. Alcohol sales were particularly successful. Alissa thanked all involved, and especially Board volunteers Mary and Andrea and staff committee member Drew.

Communications

Friends of the Library - Arlene

- Although there is not usually a January Book Sale, volunteers coordinated one this year and it was very successful. Profits totaled over \$900, including the sale of a collection of Louis L'Amour books that went for over \$200.
- Several recently acquired books were owned by Teddy Roosevelt.
- Bills for Chili Bowl will be settled soon.

City Commission - Dani

- The City Commission is focusing heavily on land use.
- Dani is excited to be part of this new chapter of the Library.

Discussion with the Public: None

Continuing Business

- Action on Collection Management Policies (COL 1-9 & 11-13) will be taken at the next meeting.
- No action is taken on prioritizing specific policies for review. The Board delegates this to Alissa.

New Business

- Alissa proposes that the April meeting be canceled due to the MLA Conference, but notes that a short, virtual special meeting may be needed to take action on hiring for seasonal staff. Mariah moves to cancel the April meeting. Dani 2nd. All in favor.
- Alissa requests a building closure during the MLA Conference to allow for full staff attendance and deep-cleaning that cannot be done while the building is open to the public. Dani moves to close the Library for the MLA conference. Andrea 2nd. All in favor.
- Alissa requests a volunteer from the Board to assist with Author Dinner. Jean and Mariah offer their assistance. The Board discusses past Author Dinner events, including the silent auction, which will not be held this year.

Mary joins the meeting via Zoom.

• The Board discusses current priorities, terms, and strategic plan components with new member Dani. Areas of interest include adult education, programming audits, and one-off events. A priority is deepening the quality of current programs and public engagement.

Trustee Minute

- Dani is reading *The Magician's Daughter*, but is not sure she would recommend it.
- Mary recommends *Gulp* and *Fuzz*, both books by Mary Roach, as well as the film *Quiz Lady*.
- Everyone agrees it is good to have Dani onboard.

(3:00PM Dani moves to adjourn, Mary 2nd. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.)

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING: February 15, 2024 at 1:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by Drew Kettering, Librarian.