

Oneida County Library Board
Unapproved Minutes of September 11, 2014

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Oneida County Library Board was called to order by President Ken Klein at 1:30 on September 11, 2014 in Committee Room#1, 2nd Floor of the Oneida County Courthouse. The meeting was properly noticed and located according to law.

Present Board Members: Ken Klein, Diana Blicharz, Pat Pechura, Tom Kelly, and Mary Schoeneck.
Others Present: Library Directors Mary Taylor (MPL), Tom Hurlburt (Interim Director RPL) and Erica Brewster (EUDL) and WVLS Representatives Kris Adams Wendt and Paul Knuth.

Approve Agenda: Motion by Blicharz, seconded by Kelly to approve agenda. Motion passed.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Pechura, seconded by Blicharz to approve minutes. Kelly abstained as he was not at meeting. Motion passed.

Discussion of out of county library reimbursement- Brian Desmond: opinion rendered that we are obligated to continue payment of out of county library reimbursements at 70%. Requests for reimbursements must be made by July 1st.

Recent Developments: No discussion followed.

Reports:

Minocqua Public Library: Back to Fall programming: Story Time (Wednesday morning) and Music Garden (Thursday morning) off to successful starts despite stormy weather.

Science on Tap (Wednesday, September 3) attracted a crowd of 125 at the Minocqua Brewing Company and 25 at the library where the program is live streamed. Ron Eckstein, wildlife biologist, presented “Bald Eagles: The Fall and Rise of a Northwood’s Icon”. His presentation and the discussion, as well as all previous Science on Tap programs, are available on the Science on Tap website www.scienceontapminocqua.org.

Upcoming programs: Audiologist Juliette Sterkens is featured on Thursday, September 18, at 6:30pm. She will talk about hearing loss, hearing aids, and the hearing loop technology. Partnership with Nicolet College is expanding. Tuesday, September 9, Pathways to Entrepreneurship Workshop/ Tuesday, September 30, Resume and Cover Letter Workshop. In 2015 we hope to offer continuing education classes. Craft Programs: weekly Fiber Friends (Wednesday afternoons) and a Plarn Workshop (plarn is plastic yarn) on Thursday, September 25. Movie screening and discussion- “Secret Life Secret Death: a Docudrama Mystery” produced by Genevieve Davis on Friday, October 3.

Exciting News: We were selected as one of the libraries to host UW-Madison's MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) initial 2015 course offering- “Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region” (February 23 through March 23). It's a new partnership with the UW and WILS as the university looks at using libraries in this new educational opportunity for Wisconsin residents. Staffing: Working through retirements and reorganizing staff responsibilities.

Edward U. Demmer Library: Staffing Update: Erica has fully assumed the role as library director. Janet Dixon is returning to work with the library for up to 8 hours per week in collection development. Her work will focus on weeding and ordering new books for our collection, especially working with our limited shelf space. Circulation statistics: The Demmer Library checkouts plus renewals for the first half of the year are: 2014: 18,654 (report issued by WVLS) 2013: 21,301 (report issued by WVLS). Budget: Demmer Library has submitted their operational budget to the Town of Three Lakes.

The next town budget meeting will be on Tuesday, September 16. The library is maintaining a zero percent increase to its operational budget request for 2015. Building and Grounds: Possible shift in the building project: we have been approached by the town and the historical society to discuss the possibility of looking at a “community complex” model. The Library Board gave the go-ahead to pursue further discussions, and Town Board has made a motion to put out an RFP for design and cost estimates for a concept that would incorporate the town offices, the historical society offices along with the local history room, and shared bathrooms and meeting rooms. Discussions will begin shortly. Technology: Erica has successfully installed the “Raspberry Pi” to run the automated catalog in the children's area. We are purchasing a second Raspberry Pi (\$60, not including monitor, keyboard, and mouse) for the catalog in the adult area, and then swapping out that computer to replace the one currently running PC COP. Programming: Nicolet Learning in Retirement “Near Great Books” discussion group will begin meeting on Thursday, September 18.

Rhineland Public Library: Virginia Woods Roberts accepted our offer of the position of Library Director. She has been director of the Chippewa Falls Public Library the past two years and before that served as Director of Suttons Bay, Michigan Public Library, for seven years. Her first day of work here is tentatively set for October 27. The City of Rhineland asked me to facilitate a meeting of the library district municipalities so the district contract can be renegotiated. Our library board of trustees voted unanimously to instruct me not to do so as we are satisfied with the way the contract reads now.

WVLS and Legislative: Wendt stated that the WVLS Budget and System Plan would be given final approval at the September 20 WVLS Board of Trustees meeting. A “Marketing and Merchandizing” workshop was held on September 3 featuring Peggy Barber, formerly Associate Executive Director for Communication for the American Library Association, as principle speaker. Participants will be working on individual projects and collaborating via a special list serve between now and March 2015 when Barber will return for a second session. October 16 is the annual WVLS youth services workshop. This year's discussion and presentation topics are libraries and literacy, the community value of youth services, alternatives to reading incentives, and practical and empowering ideas for stellar programs. DPI/DLT Public Library Youth and Special Services Consultant Tessa Michaelson Schmidt, Waupaca Area Public Library Children's Librarian Sue Abrahamson, and Hedberg Public Library (Janesville) Head of Youth Services Sharon Grover. The promotion of legislative relationship building in advance of next year's state budget process must intensify to meet the anticipated challenges presented by a significant projected budget deficit.

Finance and Budget: Motion to approve Director's vouchers and mileage was made by Blicharz, seconded by Pechura and unanimously approved.

2015 Yearly Oneida Library Budget Request: A lengthy budget discussion was held. The following amounts were determined for the three Oneida County Libraries: Minocqua Public Library \$146,186; Rhineland Public Library \$164,278; and Edward U. Demmer Library \$42,642. Motion made by Pechura, seconded by Blicharz for approval of the proposed budget. Motion passed.

Adjournment: Motion made by Kelly, seconded by Schoeneck. Motion passed.

Ken Klein, President

Mary Schoeneck, Secretary