

Talcott Free Library Board Meeting at the Rockton Community Center

Monday, June 26, 2023

Members Present: A. Floto, L. Floto, D. Garlow, T. Garlow, Geddeis, Kovanda, Director Gove.

President Kovanda called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with a roll call of members.

Public Comment: Geddeis moved, and D. Garlow seconded, to extend the customary time for public comment from 20 minutes to one hour due to the large number of community members in attendance. Motion passed unanimously. President Kovanda outlined guidelines for public comment, noting that speakers would be chosen who self-identified on the signup sheets as district residents. Speakers would alternate according to their positions for or against the evening's main question. Speakers were limited to a maximum of three minutes per person. At the end of the hour, eleven residents for and eleven residents against had spoken. A. Floto moved, and T. Garlow seconded, to end the public comments. Kovanda moved to amend the motion to allow two more speakers, a village council member and a county board member. The amendment failed for lack of a second. The original motion passed on a 4-2 vote. Public comment was ended.

Drag Q&A Program Discussion and Vote: President Kovanda moved, and Geddeis seconded, to cancel the Drag Q&A event scheduled for July 14. Kovanda reminded the public that now the discussion was limited to board members without additional public input. Kovanda, L. Floto, A. Floto and Geddeis contributed to the discussion of the pros and cons of the event in question. Appreciation was expressed to Director Gove for her outstanding everyday work in addition to meeting myriad challenges during the construction project. The motion to cancel the event was defeated on a roll call vote with Geddeis and Kovanda in favor, T. Garlow, A. Floto, D. Garlow and L. Floto against.

At 8:35 p.m. President Kovanda called for a recess. Meeting resumed at 8:45 p.m.

Secretary's Report: T. Garlow moved, and Geddeis seconded, to accept this report as presented. Unanimous approval.

Treasurer's Report: L. Floto moved, and Kovanda seconded, to approve this report. Approved unanimously.

Librarian's Report: D. Garlow moved, and A. Floto seconded, to approve this report and the payment of current bills. Motion approved unanimously. There was no update from the Director.

Building and Grounds Report: State Farm Insurance reported the soft metal on 113 E. Main is damaged enough for insurance coverage. The board gave approval to start the steps of the bidding process for roof, gutter, and soffit replacement.

Unfinished Business: Geddeis moved, and Kovanda seconded, to approve the FY2024 budget. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business: 1) An addition to the patron conduct policy reads: "Protesters will be allowed around the building as long as they ensure that walkways to the entrance of the library and parking lot are not impeded. Protesters may not block the entrances to the library." L. Floto moved, and T. Garlow seconded, to approve the policy. Motion passed unanimously. 2) Geddeis moved, and A. Floto seconded, to approve the list of FY2024 meeting and closed dates. Unanimous approval. 3) Kovanda moved, and T. Garlow seconded, to approve the tax bill method for calculating the cost of non-resident library cards. Motion approved unanimously.

A. Floto moved for adjournment, seconded by Geddeis. Unanimous approval. Adjournment at 8:57 p.m.