

## Talcott Free Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

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

President Kovanda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Budget Hearing: The hearing was opened at 7:01 p.m. There being no public input on the budget, Geddeis moved, and D. Garlow seconded, to close the hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Two members of the public offered comments.

Secretary's Report: Kovanda suggested an addition to the minutes as presented: Director Gove clarified that the policy change regarding young adult nonfiction materials was made because of the library expansion. T. Garlow moved, and Ragaller seconded, to approve the secretary's report including this addition. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Ragaller moved, and D. Garlow seconded, to approve this report. Passed unanimously. Geddeis moved, and T. Garlow seconded, to approve Ordinance 2023-02, Budget and Appropriations. Motion approved unanimously. The Ordinance was signed by President Kovanda and Secretary L. Floto.

Librarian's Report: L. Floto moved, and Kovanda seconded, to approve this report and the payment of current bills. Unanimous approval. Director's updates: 1) The annual audit is complete and will be available for inspection by next meeting. There were no issues with the audit. 2) The old computers have been picked up by PCs for People. They will notify the library that all units were wiped before donation to needy parties. 3) Peter recommends that the library purchase backup internet in case of system failure. 4) A patron volunteer has re-stained the porch planters. 5) The fire inspection has been completed. 6) The staff training day was a success. 7) Staff are relieved that a suspect has been arrested in connection with recent bomb scares in the Chicago area.

Building and Grounds Report: 1) An arborist will be consulted to evaluate the status of a half-dead tree near the Dairyhaus arbor. The tree had been struck by lightning a couple of years ago. Director Gove will also seek quotes for tuckpointing the exterior of 113 E. Main 2) A. Floto moved, and D. Garlow seconded, to authorize Megan to contact the tenant at 113 E. Main Street regarding his responsibility to remedy deficiencies found by the building inspector, and to verify which issues he has already resolved. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business: 1) There are questions about the wording of the Board Vacancy policy. Kovanda moved, and A. Floto seconded, to lay this matter over to the next meeting. Geddeis and Gove are to confer and compose policy language for

consideration at that meeting. Approved unanimously. 2) Geddeis presented an outline for a proposed Post-Mortem report on the Drag Q & A Event, along with a Purpose and Benefit Statement. Geddeis moved, and T. Garlow seconded, to task Director Gove with commencing the process to produce a Post-Mortem Report. Passed unanimously.

New Business: 1) Geddeis noted the difficulty of locating and researching board policy statements, and suggested a numbering system. In his capacity as board Vice-President, he is willing to work on this. 2) Discussion of community questions: The Director's role as administrator is to deal with these questions. The Board's role is governance, and will serve to back up the Director if questions remain unresolved. If any policy changes are needed, the administrator will propose them to the board. A. Floto moved, and D. Garlow seconded, to refer community questions to the Director. Motion passed on a vote of 6 to 1 with Kovanda dissenting.

T. Garlow moved, and A. Floto seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by L. Floto, Secretary