

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

Members of the Public: 14.

President Kovanda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Public Comment: None.

Secretary's Report: T. Garlow moved, and Geddeis seconded, to approve minutes of the February meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: D. Garlow moved, and L. Floto seconded, to approve this report. Passed unanimously.

Librarian's Report: L. Floto moved, and Ragaller seconded, to approve this report and the payment of current bills. Motion approved unanimously. Director's Update consisted of 18 items including: sent lease proposal to Dairyhäus, checked links and updated the online policy manual, checked in weekly to prepare strategic planning meeting for April 14, updated information on new tax exemption certificate, met with three carpet cleaning companies for estimates, spoke with numerous contacts about policy for posting candidate biographies on the library website, researched ethics ordinance mandated by state of Illinois, planned summer reading program "Level Up at Your Library", worked on estimates for bathroom doors project, tried to resolve backordering issues with Baker & Taylor, secured cooperation from numerous Rockton businesses to support National Library Week April 6-12, contacted Winnebago County LGBTQ groups on behalf of Universities who are conducting a survey of LGBTQ adults library use, read aloud for Read Across America week at Rockton Grade School, dealt with a payment issue with Kanopy, determined that the Chicago Tribune print edition should be replaced with online subscription to save money, learned to replace batteries and do routine checks on the automatic door system to save on service calls, decommissioned/wiped/recycled old children's Samsung tablets, and won approval to receive about \$450 in funding from Roscoe Rotary. Attended 7 online classes/webinars and 3 in-person conferences/meetings.

Building and Grounds Report: There were frost and mold problems on the HVAC in the server room. No leaks were found. More insulation was added to the piping to resolve the issue.

Unfinished Business: The Community Information Posting Policy was discussed, making minor grammatical changes for clarity. Kovanda moved, and Ragaller seconded, to approve this policy. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business: 1) Closed session recordings. Kovanda moved, and A. Floto seconded, to preserve the existing recordings and revisit this issue in six months. Unanimous approval. 2) Ethics ordinance. The Illinois General Assembly in 2003 enacted an ethics law mandating the adoption of a local ethics ordinance. Talcott has not acted on this mandate. The state issued a model ordinance for consideration. This issue was discussed without board action. 3) Candidate biographies on library website. Board members expressed various opinions. Some thought it was advisable for patrons to have more information about the candidates, noting that other libraries are doing it and so is the Forest Preserve District. Others thought that there could be questions about favoritism in the content of biographies submitted, and opined that candidates could avail themselves of community media outlets and other means to present their cases to the public. Meanwhile the Director had sent a questionnaire to all candidates requesting biographical information. Consensus was that if a majority

of the candidates submit a bio, these will be published on the library's website. Ragaller presented a motion, seconded by T. Garlow, which was then withdrawn. 4) Political speech. Geddeis had proposed to board members via email that staff members should be prohibited from discussing candidates with patrons outside of work time. This seemed to violate first amendment rights, so the Director contacted Ancel Glink for guidance. Geddeis objected to this action being taken without board discussion. The Director has advised staff to respond to patrons' questions by suggesting they google the candidates' names with "Talcott Free Library" rather than express any personal opinions on candidates. No action taken.

T. Garlow moved, and Geddeis seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval.
Adjournment at 7:55 p.m.