

Dakota County Library Foundation

Board Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2019 4:30PM - 6:00 PM

Wescott Library

Attendees: Roseanne Byrne (President), Marty Fischer, Dixie Ohlander, Sara Galligan, Joan Utvik, Roxanne Mindeman; also attending Jennifer Reichert-Simpson, Library Deputy Director

Meeting called to Order (Roseanne Byrne)

Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2019—motion to approve by Roxanne Mindeman; seconded by Marty Fischer with unanimous approval.

Financial Report—Roseanne Byrne—The Rosemount bank account is now closed. Roseanne received confirmation that the funds were transferred to Fidelity. The stock market is doing well so investments are up. Everything is at Fidelity now—in money market and CDs. There are several money market accounts and CD accounts. Originally \$11,000 was gifted to form the foundation and is treated as an endowment. The investment accrues about \$1000 per year in interest on all accounts.

New Member—Dixie Ohlander was welcomed by the group. She has been involved in libraries for many years including 18 years at Augsburg College; she retired in 2016.

New Business—Recurring Donation—Rachel Quick—Website revision—Roseanne described some possible changes. Discussion to be continued for Rachel to add her comments.

Topics

Library Funding Requests

Jennifer Reichert-Simpson described two proposals:

1. \$955--Winter Reads—an adult reading program – it has attracted over 800 participants in the past; it would run January-February 2020
2. \$310--Adult and Youth Poetry Contest—April—over 200 participants last year.

Marty Fisher moved and Sara Galligan seconded approving the funding requests for both proposals and members approved unanimously.

Jennifer went on to describe another project for which funds may be requested. This involves a literacy program for Dakota County jail inmates. Jennifer will get more details on this; the board members may be asked to vote on this proposal electronically.

Continuance of the Foundation

Roseanne explained that there wasn't a quorum at the August board meeting. She described some of the history of the foundation and prior support from library administrative staff. However, the County said that library staff were prohibited from doing this work. Under Roseanne, the board has seen major accomplishments. Board members praised and thanked Roseanne for all her work to keep the foundation strong. However, Roseanne will no longer continue as president of the foundation. She does plan to stay on the board.

Another role for the foundation is as fiscal agent. Burnsville branch received a grant, but a nonprofit fiscal agent was required by the grantor. Roseanne noted that the foundation is a conduit for this type of funding. Roseanne then raised issues for consideration:

Should the foundation continue?

The foundation needs leadership and support

Roseanne read from the foundation bylaws regarding the dissolution clause. If the foundation ceases to exist, who would manage the existing funds? Some possibilities were one of the friends groups—or possibly Rachel Quick, who Roseanne noted has the skill sets to take over the presidency, with the support of other board members.

Roseanne suggested that we continue through 2020 and reassess later. Joan Utvik commented that it would be good to get younger people on the foundation.

The consensus of the members was to continue even if the foundation needs to be dormant for a while. During the dormant period the following tasks would need to be considered:

Website

Fiscal agency

Sending solicitation letters to prior donors

Someone's name needs to be on all accounts

Possibly need to define a stipend to pay the president and another person for admin. support

Roseanne will explore with Rachel the possibility of taking over the presidency and keeping the foundation in active status.

Library Update--Jennifer

Summer Reading—almost 12,000 children participated in the summer discover program; 94% said they learned something new—over 80% said their reading had improved.

Galaxie program—Why Treaties Matter—a program about Dakota and Ojibwe cultures.

Staff Day—December 6; foundation members are invited to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Galligan