

Neillsville Public Library Board Meeting
Neillsville Public Library
409 Hewett Street
Neillsville, WI 54456
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
9:00 A.M.

Agenda:

Call to Order: 9:00 a.m. by Julie Counsell

Roll Call:

Present: Peggy Buchda, Maggie Gelhaus, Julie Counsell, Logan Grap

Absent: John Gaier, Graeme Williams, Mary Sladich

Others in Attendance: Janay Ziebell, Kathy Wegner

Report on Notice of Meeting: Posted

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved to file.

Librarians' Report:

Director Janay Ziebell – See attached report.

Children's Librarian Kathy Wegner – See attached report.

Old Business:

Discussion/Action: Tabled item from last meeting on request to get the Director a city credit card. Julie Counsell will take request to the Finance Committee.

Discussion/Action: Overall building check required. Person requested to do it is not taking new clients. The Building Committee will survey the exterior in the spring.

New Business:

Discussion/Action: The Director's Performance Review was discussed. Motion by Buchda to file, 2nd by Grap. All Aye.

Discussion/Action: Discussion on converting the work room into office space. Motion Buchda to request the Director draft a plan for the next meeting, 2nd Counsell. All aye.

Discussion/Action: Discussed a new marquee for the front of the library, including pros on cons of digital. Motion by Gelhaus to authorize the Director to research purchase of a marquee, 2nd by Buchda. All Aye.

Bills and Vouchers: None

Balances and Accounts: Approved to file.

Next Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Communications: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Gelhaus, 2nd by Buchda. All Aye.

Director's Report January 2023

AUTHOR VISIT—Monday November 14th at 6:30 pm-- Wisconsin Author: Joy Ann Ribar
Very low attendance—maybe 8 participants---(I think BAD WEATHER was a factor).

COURSEWORK—In December, I finished my final course for the Public Library Director Certification!! The Certification courses were very helpful in learning management strategies and public/community service assets that can be provided by the Library. As promised upon my hiring, I have now bumped up in the pay scale due to the completion of this certificate and I thank you for seeing value in our library and in me!

Staff Holiday decorating and Staff Appreciation meal—we enjoyed a meal together on Friday December 2nd after we worked together to decorate the tree and the library for the Christmas Holiday. This was our third year doing this and it's been decided to get creative and try a new staff holiday celebration next year. We will still decorate together, but the meal together might take place off site.

Reading Challenge for the Adults (or anyone over 16)—in 2022 there was two 6-month bouts of Reading/Book Bingo! We didn't seem to have a huge turnout for the 2022 Bingo Reading challenges. We did have a handful of people that did black out their bingo cards but more of the participants just had Bingo (across, diagonal, or down). We have a new challenge that has begun in 2023! This year we have 54 reading prompts to choose from to read for the whole year. For every 10 books read, the participant's name will go into the bucket for a prize drawing. For example, if a person reads 50 books in the year, they get their name in the bucket 5 times! HAPPY READING!!

Resources with WVLS—I have reached out to WVLS staff for help to get me better at our digital marketing and presence. They are working with me to learn better ways to market our library and our programs with social media and on our webpage. I also have a goal to get more acquainted with working on our webpage!

WVLS is also help the Clark County Libraries and CC Library Board put together a digital presentation to take to the Clark County Board for their June meeting. The purpose of this presentation is to show our county constituents the value of our libraries in the various communities in Clark County. After they chose to take the lower value of the circulation formula for our budget (they chose 75% instead of 78% of the formula), it is evident we need to share our story with them to increase their value of the libraries both monetarily and for literary/education/community service value. I would like to challenge you as our Library Board in Neillsville to hop on board and help shout our story to the community and county board of supervisors/budget committee. I believe our Library is doing great things and providing very valuable services to many people in our community. We are so much more than just books. Bryce Luchterhand as president of the Clark County Library Board would like to be invited to our library board meeting and can share a bit more on this front. (Maybe March?)

Upcoming in February: "Chasing Away the Winter Blues" Poetry Night—Wednesday February 22nd 6-8pm We will be having some very local published and non-published poets coming. Some were

invited through the Central Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets group. Max Garland retired instructor from UWEC, Yvette Flaten (EC), Samantha Kriese (EC), June Thompson, Jolene Miller, Karyn Powers (Wausau), and Sabrina Krejci will all be a part of the poet's night. We will have some reading of their own excerpts, panel discussion, a table for the poets to sell their published books, and an open mic time! I hope to get many participants to come and share their talents with poetry as well as students from the High School English Classes with poetry interests to come.

SNOWLESS SNOWMAN contest to be displayed at the Library for Winter Carnival event! The Neillsville Chamber of Commerce along with The Neillsville Public Library and C.A.R.T. center is encouraging businesses and individuals to get in on the FROSTY THE NO-SNOW SNOWMAN Challenge! It's a No-snow-required snowman contest. You could win Chamber Bucks prizes and bragging rights as winner of the Snowless Frosty Snowman contest! We challenge businesses and groups to get involved with Winter Carnival and to construct snowmen out of any materials they chose except real snow.

Children's Librarian Report January 2023

We had our first story hour for 2023 on Friday, January 13. There were 7 children in attendance. We read a couple books about snow and snowmen. They had a good time making a snowman and a cup with hot chocolate in it, don't forget the marshmallows. We have story hour every other Friday until the first part of May. In summer it is on Thursdays.

WVLS sent us a list of books that haven't been checked out in the past 10 years, so have been busy weeding them. There are few books I have kept because they are in a series.

I have been working with other libraries to get performers for the summer reading program. If two libraries in the same area can share, it is cheaper. The theme this year is "All Together Now". The summer reading program will start on the 7th of June.