

Neillsville Public Library Board Meeting
Neillsville Public Library
409 Hewett Street
Neillsville, WI 54456
Tuesday, July 18, 2023
9:00 A.M.

Agenda:

Call to Order: 9:00 a.m. by Maggie Gelhaus

Roll Call:

Present: John Gaier, Graeme Williams, Peggy Buchda, Mary Sladich, Maggie Gelhaus, Bill Neville. Absent: Logan Grap. Others in Attendance: Janay Ziebell, Kathy Wegner

Report on Notice of Meeting: Posted

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion to file by Williams, 2nd Buchda. All aye.

Discussion/Action: Election of Officers. Nomination for Williams as President by Gaier, 2nd Neville. All aye. Nomination for Logan Grap as Vice President by Gaier, 2nd Buchda. All aye. Nomination for Maggie Gelhaus as Secretary by Gaier, 2nd Neville. All aye. Proceedings turned over to the Library Board President.

Librarians' Report:

Director Janay Ziebell – See attached report.

Children's Librarian Kathy Wegner – See attached report.

Old Business

Discussion/Action: Storybook Trail Grant Awarded by Cummins/Atmus. Motion to authorize the Library Director to use the library funds up to \$6,000 for the Storybook Trail project by Buchda, 2nd Gaier. All aye.

Discussion/Action: Library Marque. Motion to table item 1st Gelhaus, 2nd Neville. All aye.

Discussion/Action: Office Reorganization. Motion to table and discuss at next meeting under subject Office Equipment Update by Gelhaus, 2nd Neville. All aye.

New Business

Discussion/Action: Committee assignments. Updated.

Discussion/Action: Library Board permission for responsibility with Farmers' Market.

Initial idea for the Library to be a resource for vendors needing internet access, etc., but not in charge of the event. On-going discussion.

Bills and Vouchers: None

Balances and Accounts: Motion to file by Buchda, 2nd Williams. All aye,

Next Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Communications: none

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

Director's Report July 2023

Lead the Way Conference and WAPL conference:

At the end of April, I attended two conferences for some education and development. Both conferences were very good. I attended sessions about Leadership in the community, staff management (creative ways to have staff meetings), and about how other libraries have established a Storybook Trail and the nuts and bolts of the actual projects. Learning about the other projects including the glitches and mistakes or "wish we had done..." was extremely helpful in moving forward with my project. (for example: how best to disassemble the books to insert into the trail posts. This is much more complicated than I imagined!)

Story book trail: We have been awarded a \$6,000 Grants from Cummins/Atmus Filtration Technologies to put in a Storybook Trail at Schuster Park along the already paved walking path. The path goes from Division Street (by the steam engine) all the way north through the park over the bridge and ends at Elm Street where the Disc Golf course is located. **This Story Book Trail is a place where Families can get outdoors, walk for exercise, and learn at the same time while reading a children's storybook. It is a fun educational and recreational way to read a story book. This project helps build children's interest in reading while encouraging healthy outdoor physical fitness. It's a Fun way to get families outside and moving.** It appears she has also committed their work crew and workdays for installing the storybook trail. At the end of the storybook trail will be an invitation to come to the Neillsville Public Library to sign the guest book. This will give us a way to track our participants for reporting purposes. My ultimate end goal with this project is to promote literacy in our community and promote our Library. I am also in the works with the City Parks Department and Planning commission to get the approval for an overhead archway at the beginning of the trail. This metal archway designed to mimic the Grand Ave. Bridge archway at the south end of the trail is a work in progress from Kranzations metal fabricating company (Joe and Michelle Kranz). They have given a quote for this arch-way but I still need final approval from the planning commission and parks depts. Now that Heritage days is over, I can move forward with getting the path and posts design set and materials ordered. My goal is that we can have a BIG GRAND OPENING on Friday August 25th with a book give-away for the first 25 kids that come and also share some refreshments, have a balloon arch and ribbon cutting by the mayor and parks board and our library board!

We have also been given 4 brand new kids bikes to give away in the next year from Cummins/Atmus Filtration from the 90+ bikes they are donating to the city and NIC corp. I am thinking of giving two of those bikes away on our Storybook Trail grand opening!

Clark County Board presentations for reimbursement of services: WVLS and the Clark County Libraries and CC Library Board have attended the June Clark County Board meeting. We had great turn out of library supporters and representation along with a digital presentation 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. We will now go to the next step of County board meetings for the Executive meeting on August 21st at 9 AM **I would like to ask 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! Please consider coming on Friday August 21st to the County Bd Executive Committee meeting for our next presentation.**

Staff Development: We have been having some staff meetings about every other month for one hour in the evening after closing. These meetings are a great time for us all to share our area of expertise at the library and what areas we need help or extra hands to accomplish the good things we are doing. Also, we take a little time to get a quick training on an area of customer service. In June we joined together for a meal at Just Love Coffee! They say to properly develop staff relations and productivity "you must work together AND Play together well"!

SHOUT OUT TO KATHY: Summer Reading Programs organized by Kathy have been very well attended! She has had an average of 50 people at the performer presentations all summer as well as 20 people at story hour times! Great Job, Kathy for bringing all these people into our library for the kids programs!

Children's Librarian Report

July 2023

Kickoff day for the summer library reading program was on Wednesday, June 7. They had until the end of June to sign up and if there are unusual circumstances, they can sign up later. We have 114 children signed up; it is always interesting to see how many children reach their goal.

Our first program with a performer was on Wednesday, June 14 at 1:00 pm.

It was the Magic of Isaiah. The children really enjoyed how he made things appear, a banner with the word Imagination. There were about sixty-five people in attendance. The next program was on June 21 at 1:00 pm. Critterrrman's program talked about recycling. He used puppets in his program. Wednesday, June 28 was craft day, the children were able to make different Fourth of July crafts. In the evening we had the Pint-Sized Polkas performed in our east parking lot. The last two programs were in the basement because of rain. July 5, The Wacky World of Wesley Waffles entertained with music and songs. July 12, Magician Jeff McMullen entertained the children with balloon magic and talked about bike safety. We have two more programs and one more story hour. The children have until August 2 to August 12 to hand in their reading records.

On Thursday, June 15 at 10:30 to 11:00 am we had our first story hour for the summer with eight children. They listened to a story about Father's Day. They had fun making a craft they could give to their dad for Father's Day. The next story hour was on June 29. The children had fun listening to a couple of stories about the Fourth of July and made a craft. For the story hour on July 13, we will talk about how it is important to stick together.

Kathy Wegner
Children's Librarian