

Library Advisory Board Meeting

September 19, 2019

Minutes

Members Present: Elaine Ebeling (Chair), Leigh Rupinski (secretary), Patti Walcott, Margaret Wheeler, Barb VanderVeen (Township Board representative), Kristen Borgman

Others Present: Lizzie Schab (Director), Dawn

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of the agenda
- III. Approval of the previous meeting minutes
- IV. Director's Report
 - a. Wifi Hotspot Grant
 - i. Ottawa County-wide library directors awarded approx. \$81,000 grant (split between all libraries) from LSTA
 - ii. 10 Hotspots available at each library
 - b. 2019 Summer Reading Program
 - i. 1,560 sign-ups, 647 people finished
 - ii. 85 events
 - c. Big Read Lakeshore
 - i. Community Read for Ottawa County
 - ii. Month-long reading program where all area libraries do events that go along with the readings
 - iii. Thursday Nov. 7th 7pm for book discussion of "In the Time of the Butterflies" by Julia Alvarez
 - iv. Oct. 5th giveaway for the Big Read books
 - d. Staff Changes
 - i. 3 new hires
 - ii. Currently hiring a page, 2 evenings a week and every other Saturday
- V. Old business
 - a. Friends of the Library group
 - i. Purpose: Support Library through fundraising and advocacy (ex: book sale), attending related workshops/conferences
 - ii. Time Commitment: Once every 2-3 months to meet, possibly more frequent in early stages/around an event
 - iii. Yearly dues: approx. \$10 a year
 - iv. Advertise in Allendale Announcer, small posters
 - v. October 24-1st Meeting for Friends (tentative time 6:30?)
 - b. Update on Grocery Store Literacy Project
 - i. Rotary meeting for support on acquiring books
 - ii. Possibility to expand to other locations
- VI. New business
 - a. Fines Free on Children's and Young Adult Materials
 - i. Empower lower-income families to use the library

- ii. Children not reading at grade level (MSTEP) will be held back – want to encourage reading
 - iii. Studies show no significant differences in return rates
 - iv. Many other area libraries have dropped these fines
 - v. Unanimous vote in favor of waiving fines on print materials for all age levels
 - b. Santa’s visit will be 11am on Dec. 7th
 - c. Social media posts to highlight collection items to check out (i.e. sewing machine, Cricut, Xbox, Pass to Children’s Museum, etc.)
- VII. Public Comments
 - a. Barb would like Lizzie to come to the Township Board and do a report about the library
 - b. Adult literacy discussion – Love Inc., connect with Grand Valley State Univ.
- VIII. Adjournment