

Sparta Free Library
Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees
12 July, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Sandie Perry at 5:02 PM.

Members participating: Paul Lenz, Amy Bernath, Bruce Humphrey, and Terry Putman. Also participating were Youth Services Coordinator Aimee Schreiber and Adult Services Coordinator Nicole Wallace. Library Director Michelle Tryggstad, President Laura Koll, and Trustee Reinhard Mueller were excused.

Approval of Minutes: The June minutes were presented. **Putman, seconded by Lenz, moved to approve the June minutes. Motion carried.**

Public Input: None.

Finances: A printed report reflecting June expenditures and income was distributed, as well as a list of year-to-date expenditures with comparison to budget for 2021. **Bernath, seconded by Lenz, moved to approve the bills. Motion carried.**

Directors Report:

Programming

June Programming Highlights:

- Youth Services: June saw the official kick off of the 2021 Summer Learning Challenge and we currently have 199 participants of all ages registered on Beanstack. Youth Services returned to weekly programming, including Snuggly Stories, Groovy Mondays, Listen 'n Munch, and Storytime Online. Schreiber hosted two successful Zoom programs: one in partnership with local vets (Vets Talk Pets panel – 18 attendees) and one with the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge (Bird Identification – 32 attendees). June's ABC Animal Outdoor Scavenger Hunt had 93 participants and 3 raffle winners took home alphabet book prizes.
- Adult Services: In June, 30 Adult Summer Activity Kits along with 54 Spice Club Kits were taken home by eager patrons. The June TR-I-N-G-O event also "sold-out" with 18 kits taken and 12 live game participants. Coffee & Chat Book Club had 8 participants discussing Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo this month. Needlecraft Club remains a popular offering with all 9 macrame kits picked up and 5 people joining us for live Zoom programming.

Upcoming Projects & Programs:

- Youth Services:
 - Kid's Summer To-Go Kits (150/week) – Themes: birds, monkeys, elephants, pandas, pigs
 - Teen Summer Activity Kits (100) – Journal, edible sand art, DIY light switch cover, & more
 - Nocturnal Animals Scavenger Hunt – June 28 thru July 18
 - Teen Trivia: Animals – July 6

- Teen Advisory Group Meeting – July 13
- NNWR Presentation: Where Do Animals Live? – July 14
- Virtual Lego Club: Mystery Brick Challenge – July 21
- **Adult Services:**
 - Adult Summer Activity Kits (30) - Rain gauge & beach glass candle holder
 - Spice Club Kits (50) – Highlighting garam masala & includes a Healthy Grilling with Garam Masala demonstration via Zoom on July 16
 - Needlecraft Club (10): Needle Felting on July 8
 - Summer-themed TR-I-N-G-O (20) – July 19
 - Coffee & Chat Book Club: *The Widows of Malabar Hill* by Sujata Massey (10) on July 20

Operations:

- **Increased Services:** Five days a week Library Express Services continues with positive reception from the public. Staff is exploring a return to full service hours in the fall.
- **Community Partnership:** Youth Services Coordinator Schreiber led daily teambuilding activities during Junior Space Camp (17 participants), hosted by Alyssa at the Deke Slayton Museum.
- **Staffing:** Director Tryggestad is scheduled to return to work part-time on Monday, 19 July.

Building & Grounds: Algae bloom was noted by staff on June 29. Cleared and cleaned by City Administrator Todd Fahning on June 30. Bluish tint due to chemicals used will remain until the bloom is cleared.

Old Business:

Expansion Committee update: Mayor Gust appointed the following to the Blue Ribbon Committee for the expansion project: Director Michelle Tryggestad; Trustee Reinhard Mueller; Alderman/Trustee Bruce Humphrey; Alderman/City Finance Committee Chairman Kevin Riley; City Administrators Todd Fahning and Mark Sund; John La Course; John Winkleman.

New Business: None.

Items for Future Consideration: None.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 2, 2021, 5 PM.

Putman, seconded by Humphrey, moved to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:27 PM.