

Gary Byker Memorial Library of Hudsonville

Library Advisory Board Meeting

July 19, 2022

MINUTES

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Don Van Doeselaar at 7:01 pm. Those present were Ali Bendert, John Blom, Keith Johnson, Phil Leerar, Don Van Doeselaar, Don Williams, and Melissa Huisman.

Board Minutes

--Jan 18, 2022

A motion was made by Leerar and supported by Blom to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2022 meeting. The motion carried.

Financial Reports

--City reports

The City Expenditure/Revenue Reports for the library were reviewed.

Communications

The January Director's report, as well as the FY statistics were reviewed. Huisman was asked to talk to the city's maintenance man about the possibility of a generator for the library's sump pumps, in the event of a power failure.

Old Business

Some information from the Library of Michigan for Library Boards on the topic of "Book Challenges, Censorship, and Michigan Public Libraries" was provided.

The issue of book censoring and recent activity in Jamestown was discussed. Huisman explained why a "no" vote on their upcoming library ballot will eventually deny free public library access to all of their residents. Without a millage, they may still be able to keep their library doors open for a while, but only until their existing funds are exhausted. When this happens, and the doors close, they library no longer exists and their cards will not be honored at any other Lakeland library.

The fact that some citizens may be able to purchase non-resident cards at nearby libraries was discussed. At this time, our library does not offer non-resident cards, and does not plan to.

New Business

--Survey Results

A summary of the library/community center part of the City's recent survey dealing was reviewed. It was noted that, overall the Library was highly rated by the citizens, and a good portion of the respondents would favor a new library/community center. Amenities they would like to see included were: Senior center, Youth Center, Community rooms, Gym/Exercise rooms, or Fitness Center.

Some caveats mentioned were: the fact that the survey participants were "self-selected," and that the survey method of collecting the information

primarily online may have skewed the results against some of our “less digitally oriented” residents.

Endowment

--Excess FY funds

The latest information on our two funds with the Holland Zeeland Community Foundation was reviewed. When the 2021-2022 fiscal year is complete and audited, Huisman will work with the City Treasurer to move any surplus funds (over and above the needed 20% for a healthy fund balance) over to the building campaign endowment. This will then be on the agenda for the October meeting.

Added New Business

Hudsonville Historical items will soon be on sale locally and Van Doeselaar suggested that the city look into purchasing some or all of the items for our local history collection. Huisman was asked to speak to the City manager regarding this.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting date will be Tuesday, October 18 at 7 pm.

Adjournment

At 8:30, a motion was made by Leerar, and supported by Johnson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

MH 7/20/22