

CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF THE SAINT PETER LIBRARY BOARD

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Library Board of the City of Saint Peter was conducted at the St. Peter Public Library, Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

I. **Call to Order:**

The Library Board meeting was called to order at 5:27 p.m. by Chair Karen Snay. The following board members were present: Mary Ann Hanson, Karen Snay, Alan Bray, Loehrl Pillers, Don Fuller and Emily Bruflat. Ex Officio member present: Brenda McHugh. Absent Michelle Twait.

II. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion was made by Hanson and seconded by Bruflat to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Request was made by Hanson to replace under Friends of the Library update “some include a large print book” to “and large print are available for some titles” also McHugh asked that under Library Condenser “presented the Gorman Park concept to the board” be replaced with “reported the condenser will be replaced once it becomes available as the current one is not working well” Motion was made by Bruflat and seconded by Pillers to approve the amended May 9, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. **Report of Library**

A. **Summer Reading Recap –**

- 397 Youth signed up for the program – The “store” with prizes was very popular.
- 5 Volunteers working in the library
- 114 preschoolers (to date) participating in 1000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Outreach: bookmobile visits, Story Splash at the Pool, Saints Overtime, Jazz at the Park, Library at the Farmers Market
- Programs: Storytime Guests and Performers, Climb Theatre, Perpetual Pete’s Variety Show, Breakout Box Event, Duke Otherwise, Rockin’ & Reading with Leonardo, Karibuni African Music, Bedtime Buddy Storytime
- Teen Programs: Queers & Allies Club, Animanga Panel, Dungeons and Dragons Clubs, Digital Photography Class, Paint and Chill Class, Teen Tuesdays, Battle of the Books
- Time to Share – outreach for Spanish speaking families. This program was very well organized and promoted but not well attended. The committee is working on pivoting our efforts to make it more effective as a resource for our community.

B. **Fall Programming**

**ADULT**

- Testify - September 1 – October 15.
- Minnesota History Series with Arn Kind at the Senior Center in collaboration with the Saint Peter Public Library. Made possible with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund and the people of Minnesota for Library Legacy activities. • The Viking Age Wed., Sep. 27, 2 p.m., SPCC Rm. 219, Free • Pirates: Predators of the Seas Wed., Oct.

25, 2:00 p.m., SPCC Rm. 219, Free • Minnesota's Wild & Woolly Prohibition Days Wed., Nov. 29, 2 p.m., SPCC Rm. 219

- Free Fall Music Series, an afternoon of music at the Senior Center in collaboration with the Saint Peter Public Library. Made possible with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Wed., Oct 4, Oct. 11, Oct. 18, Nov. 8, Nov. 15, Nov. 22, Dec. 13, 2:00 p.m.
- Art Stroll – The Second Annual Saint Peter Art Stroll returns on November 11 and 12 this year! The library will host two artists and will open specifically for this event. Sat., Nov. 11: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sun., Nov. 12: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Friends of the Library Author Panel and Annual Meeting – Thu. Nov. 16, 6:30 p.m. Geoff Herbach, Julie Gilbert, Barbara Luker, Julie Gassman, Kristin Cronn-Mills, and Rachael Hanel

### **TEEN**

- Animanga Club
- Dungeons and Dragons Clubs
- Teen Time Tuesday Ages 13 & up Join other teens to create crafts, play games, or participate in a group project! Each week features a different activity. Oct.17, 4:00 p.m. Nov. 7, 4:00 p.m. Dec. 12, 4:00 p.m
- Four Fall Teen Interns: program ideas
  - a. Teen Halloween themed poetry contest
  - b. Somali Storytime
  - c. Teen Color party
- Two Day alebrijes Paper-Mache Art Workshop with a Peruvian artist (working with MN Diversity Council). Possible smaller scale Alebrije activity at one of the trailer park communities for kids

### **KIDS**

- Storytime Starts Wednesday, Sep. 6, 10:30 a.m.
- Mankato Symphony Orchestra Family Event Sep. 23

### **OUTREACH**

- Head Start and SPELS School come to the library weekly
- Preschool Storytimes at Little Lambs and ECFE preschool classrooms
- Visit to Ecumen Sand Prairie – giving them books once a month
- Free Book giveaway at Farmers Market and October Fest
- Hikmah Teen Book Club meets monthly

C. **Interns, Work-Study, Work Experience in the Library** – McHugh introduced Hallie, who is the Intern in the Saint Peter Public Library. The library will have 2 work studies and 2 MVAC work experience individuals starting this fall.

D. **Recreation and Leisure Director Status** - McHugh reported that John Stutzman has accepted the position and will start at the end of October 2023.

## V. **Old Business**

A. **Friends of the Library Update** – Hanson reported the Friends of the Library looking forward to their November membership drive and Annual meeting on November 16 with an author panel that includes six local authors.

B. **Schools Update (outreach)** – Snay reported that the schools are looking into ways to have affordable options for hotspot providers. McHugh suggested the library does have hotspots but there is a waiting list. McHugh also reported that the Minnesota Legislature is working on getting broadband services for more people, for more information go to Minnesota's Draft Digital Opportunity Plan (mn.gov).

C. **Review of Strategic Plan Goal 2** – Handout – McHugh reported on Goal 2 of the strategic plan. The board members discussed the goal and thought the plan is progressing.

- VI. **New Business**
- A. **Book Sale** – McHugh reported that the library has received many book donations and wanted the boards feedback on ways to have a book sale. Some suggestions were to “Fill Your Bag for \$2”, create a theme for the sale or have it around the holidays, or have a book sale on the “International Day of Libraries” to promote what the library offers along with the book sale.
  - B. **Testify Exhibit** – McHugh reported the Testify Exhibit is a traveling picture exhibit of art and artifacts from the Diane and Alan Page collection is at the Saint Peter Public Library. The photographic exhibit “Testify: Americana from Slavery to Today” will be on display September 1 – November 15
- VII. **Other Business** – McHugh asked MaryAnn Hanson to talk about what is in the Books in a Bag (BIB). Hanson reported the BIB started in 2014 with 5 bags and they currently have 161 BIB. Each bag includes 8 copies of a single title along with a folder with information on all the titles offered, a sign-up sheet to keep track of the copies within your book club, a Friends of the Library Brochure, a list of suggested questions to discuss and a form to fill out if you have a book title suggestion. There are fiction, non-fiction and local authors included. The BIB committee meets 2 times a year.
- VIII. **Adjourn-** Motion made by Bruflat and seconded by Hanson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

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Karen Snay, Chair

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Brenda McHugh, Library Supervisor

BM/jh