

CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF THE SAINT PETER LIBRARY BOARD

Tuesday, September 14 2021

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 14, 2021.

I. Call to Order:

The Library Board meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Vice Chair James Nickras. The following board members were present: James Nickras, Deb Fichtner, Loehrl Pillers, Emily Bruflat, Karen Snay and Mary Ann Hanson. Ex Officio members present: Joey Schugel, Brenda McHugh. Absent: Michelle Twait.

II. Approval of Agenda

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Bruflat and seconded by Fichtner to approve the May 11, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Report of Library Supervisor

- A. Summer Programming Recap** – McHugh reported the summer reading program numbers were down from past years but there was a good range of kids that participated. The Volunteen program was more popular this year with 18 teens participating. The Volunteen program will continue into the fall with an advisory board of teens who will help come up with new ideas for the teen library programming. For outreach this summer the library added a few programs. There was a storytime and snack during the pool Tot time also a library staff would bring a cart to Saints Overtime and the kids can check out library material. They also had tables of free books at the Jazz concert series in MN Square park and the farmers market.
- B. Fall Preview** – McHugh reported that the library now offers 3 story times throughout the week. Pillers asked if staff read the same book and McHugh stated there is a theme every week and there is a box of books the staff can choose from but they can also find their own book. FOL has an author event they are hosting on November 18. During MEA the library will be showing a movie in the park. Lawen Mohtadi, Gustavus Author in Residence Family Event is scheduled for October 16. Partnership with MVAC Work Experience Program to place 2 library pages at our library. They will work 300 hours and gain work experiences. Wages are paid by MVAC.
- C. Little Free Library** – McHugh reported there are currently 2 little free libraries ready to go up. They will be going in McGill Park and Veterans Park.
- D. COVID Update** – McHugh reported that the mask mandate has gone well and they have opened up the pick-up window again. The Saint Peter Public Library, in collaboration with the Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative, has added 35 Wi-Fi hot spots to its collection. These hotspots have a three-month checkout period and are available on a first come first serve basis. Patrons must be 18 or older and must sign a Hotspot Agreement in order to borrow a hotspot. The purchase of these hotspots was made possible by a grant through the American Rescue Plan Act.

V. Old Business

- A. Strategic Plan Update** – McHugh reported that a letter had been sent to the Nicollet County Commissioners updating them on what the Library offers and Emily Bruflat was at that meeting and reported that no more funds were allocated from the county but to keep sending them information so the county is aware of the benefits of the library.
- a. 2.2 Establish and grow library outreach program with surrounding community: Jazz at the Park and Farmers Market, ECFE Early Childhood Visits, Partnership with Union Place Shelter,
 - b. 2.1.3 McHugh asked the board if they had ideas on how to reach out to the Homeschool groups in the area. It was suggested that she reach out to the School District as they may have a contact.
 - c. 5.2 McHugh reported they have revised the volunteer schedule and programs.

VI. New Business

- A. New Initiative** – Schugel asked that the board consider putting a survey together for the community so they can get feedback about the library services they use and/or would like to see the library offer. They will have some examples of questions for the next meeting.

VII. Other Business

- A. Friends of the Library Update** – Hanson reported that FOL annual meeting with author panel will be on November 18. FOL provided a grant for the upcoming Active Aging week. FOL will be offering Youth FOL Memberships to youth 12-18. In June their fundraiser with Extra Innings raised \$250 and the owner added funds to total \$300.

Adjourn- Motion made by Pillers and seconded by Bruflat to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

James Nickras, Vice Chair

Joey Schugel, Recreation Director