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Rocky Public Library



MINUTES

Rocky Mountain House Library Board

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 7pm

Library Meeting Room and Zoom

Present: Ben Worth, Lori Pratt, Karen Travis, Tom Haennel, Ken Moesker

Zoom: Mimi Cole, Sydney Graham

Absent: Deb Skeels

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lori Pratt called the meeting to order on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 7:02 pm.

1.1 Agenda and Minutes

1.1.1 Additions/changes to the agenda: There were no changes.

1.1.2 Motion #735 Tom moved to adopt the agenda for tonight's meeting. Seconded by Mimi. **CARRIED**

1.1.3 Motion #736 Sydney moved to adopt the April 24, 2024 meeting minutes. Seconded by Tom. **CARRIED**

2. ITEMS FOR DECISION

2.1 Financial Report: Ben presented the snapshot of the RCU accounts and the comparative income statement to the end of April. There were no comments or concerns.

Motion #737 Tom moved to accept the financial report as presented. Seconded by Ken. **CARRIED**



3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Library Advocacy at Market on Main: Karen mentioned she saw an article in Press Reader that states eight reasons why libraries are important: Access to Information, Promotion of Literacy, Community Hub, Digital Inclusion, Preservation of Culture and History, Support for Education, Equity and Inclusion, and Information and Media Literacy. She said members of the public may not be aware of all the things libraries offer and our booth at Market on Main would be a good opportunity to address that. Discussion ensued about various ways to engage with people at the booth. Ideas included using a pull-down screen for an infographic, black-out poetry, positive messages and stories, and ways to be interactive and ask for feedback. Ben will send out a doodle poll to the Advocacy Committee and anyone else who is interested to schedule a time to plan this.

4. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

4.1 Library Manager's Report: Ben shared several items in his report. The roadside clean-up went well and the weather cooperated. There was discussion about whether doing two sections is manageable. Next year volunteers will be recruited prior to signing up. The library should be specific about what the funds will go toward in order to attract volunteers. Tom suggested approaching the schools where the students may need volunteer service hours. The question came up whether criminal record checks are required if youth are involved. Sydney will follow-up with the county about this. Creating "Friends of the Library"



would also help with fund-raising. A new free little library has been installed on the walking path in memory of Sarah Boll-Henning. The opportunity to sell their own artwork at the Market on Main booth should be extended to all library staff. The material should be vetted to ensure it is family friendly.

4.2 Library usage stats to the end of April, 2024: Both physical circulation and digital usage stats are up.

5. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

6. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: Tom shared that he attended the Canmore Public Library. They have a poetry program and a Controversial Topics display. Ben has been corresponding with them and will pursue our own version. Ken is pleased the library is engaging with young entrepreneurs in selling their art. Ben explained more about the rotating display of local artist's material inside the front entrance. This feature enhances the front entrance, showcases local talent, and supports both the artist and library financially. Lori visited the Bentley Public Library where they have a craft room, lend cake pans and sports equipment like snowshoes and have a projection screen for movie nights. The stacks are on wheels to maximize the limited space. Ken informed the board that a new town trustee has been selected. Linda Huseby will assume her role effective immediately.

7. NEXT MEETING: June 26, 2024 7 pm

8. ADJOURNMENT: Motion #738 Tom moved to adjourn at 8:07 pm.
Seconded by Mimi. **CARRIED**