

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HARRISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
March 25, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Harrison County Public Library was held on March 25, 2021. The meeting took place at the Frederick Porter Griffin Center for Local History and Genealogy, 117 W. Beaver Street, Corydon, IN. Members of the Board of Trustees present: Kathy Crimans, President; Barbara Smith, Secretary; Derrick Grigsby, Treasurer; Jon Howerton, Alisa Burch, Director, Jessica Stroud, Recording Secretary and Diana Lasky, Head of Youth Services. Suetta Tingler, Vice-President, Sue Lanham and Sharon S. Uhl were absent.

Kathy Crimans called the regular meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Barbara Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda for the March 25, 2021 meeting; Jon Howerton seconded the motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

Approval of the Agenda

Jon Howerton made a motion to approve the March 25, 2021 regular meeting agenda. Barbara Smith seconded the motion, and it was approved by a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Derrick Grigsby made a motion to approve the Claims, Budget and Financial reports for February 2021. Barbara Smith seconded the motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Alisa distributed to the board an updated copy of the HCPL Board of Trustees contact information sheet.

Diana Lasky was present at this meeting to a) provide an update regarding the public statement issued by Dr. Seuss Enterprises regarding racially insensitive portrayals of people in six of his books and (b) to provide an update regarding the Youth Services department.

Mrs. Lasky stated that she formed an internal panel of staff to evaluate the titles and she conducted a review of the Collection Development Policy. She went on to state that HCPL remains neutral and will retain the titles in the collection because books need to be available to all people. She has made available to Youth Services staff the Indiana Library Federation (ILF) Intellectual Freedom to Read webinar on censorship.

Mrs. Lasky said that she is proud of staff [who offers youth programs and activities] and their

work and production since day one of the pandemic. Eden Ransdell holds Nature Club programs outdoors and visits two preschools each month (also outdoors); Ann Allen and Savannah Wallace have begun outdoor programs at Bicentennial Park on Thursdays at 11am; Nikki Esarey and Shawnda Mosson are providing outdoor programs next month at the Palmyra branch and have been holding live Zoom youth programs. Mrs. Lasky received a note from Harrison County Community Services stating that because of the 2020 Winter Read Challenge, 404 pounds of canned food were donated and Tyson donated 8,066 pounds of chicken. Plans for the 2021 Summer Reading Program are underway; Diana is soliciting sponsors and donations and Professor Steve will be at HCPL on April 27 to film a program. Diana explained that the Cultural Passes could interest people in coming to Harrison County venues [which includes HCPL] to get their Cultural Pass stamped.

Kathy Crimans and Barbara Smith both praised Diana Lasky and Youth Services staff. Mrs. Lasky then exited the board meeting.

HVAC update: Cobb Heating and Cooling performed HVAC maintenance at HCPL.

Updated COVID precautions: the Indiana mask mandate ends on April 6, 2021.

Sarah Dorton created two new commercials that have been shared on the HCPL Facebook page. One promotes the newly added hotspots and the other offers spring greetings from HCPL.

April will be “We ♥ Our Library” month in Harrison County.

Jessica Stroud provided a hotspot update. As of March 24, 2021, hotspots have circulated 17 times:

Main (Corydon) library: 11 circulations (4 AT&T Kajeet SmartSpots; 5 Verizon Kajeet SmartSpots, 2 Alcatel Link Zone 2 hotspots)

Lanesville branch: 0 circulations

Palmyra branch: 5 circulations (3 Alcatel Link Zone 2 hotspots; 2 Verizon Kajeet SmartSpots)

Elizabeth branch: 1 circulation (1 Alcatel Link Zone 2 hotspot)

HCPL staff have helped to register 23 people for COVID vaccinations as of March 23, 2021.

A Little Free Library was placed at Corydon Elementary School. The dedication will be held on April 27 at 1:45pm.

BUSINESS

Following the news that the mask mandate issued by Governor Holcomb ends on April 6, 2021, Alisa suggested that the HCPL board retain the current precautions through the end of May 2021. Barbara Smith suggested that HCPL continue to follow CDC guidelines. Barbara Smith made a motion that HCPL continue its current COVID precautions. Derrick Grigsby seconded the motion, and it was approved by a voice vote.

Barbara Hoback Smith made a motion to approve the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees, as amended. Jon Howerton seconded the motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

Regarding the South Harrison School Corporation's appointment to the HCPL Board of Trustees, Barbara Smith stated that she received a call from Dr. Eastridge in which he stated that there is an interested party.

Alisa researched tools from the Harwood Institute to prepare to update the HCPL Long Range Strategic Plan. Alisa suggested that the board hold a brainstorming session, and that input would be gathered from staff and the public [from surveys, eBlasts, etc.]. Derrick Grigsby suggested that the board hold their planning session on a day separate from the HCPL board meeting.

A discussion was held regarding the location of upcoming HCPL board meetings. The April meeting will likely be held in the conference room at the Main library.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Barbara Smith pointed out that the HCPL board continued to meet despite the pandemic, that a meeting was never missed. She conveyed kudos to the members of the board.

Jon Howerton commented that the library's online presence has become much stronger since the pandemic began. Mr. Howerton went on to say that HCPL did not give HCPL taxpayers any reason to say that HCPL was not open during the pandemic.

There was a general discussion about censorship and racial sensitivity.

ADJOURNMENT

Jon Howerton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 p.m. Barbara Smith seconded the motion and it was approved by voice vote.

The Board will meet again for the next regular Board meeting on April 29, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at the Main library.



Secretary, HCPL Board of Trustees



Date