

Clewiston Library Board Minutes
Wednesday, August 16, 2023

- A. Opening Remarks
- B. Roll Call of Members-Present: Frank Harris, Mary Thomas, Toni Couse, Mike Galassini, and Dr. Laura Jones. Absent: Cathy Metz and Cindy Carroll.
- C. Minutes from Last Meeting
 - a. May 2, 2023-motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mrs. Thomas.
- D. Treasurer's Report –Mr. Harris reported that the balance is currently \$4,298.96 as of the latest bank statement which is dated for July 2023.
- E. Director's Report
 - a. Library Statistics-library patronage increased throughout this time period as it was the busy summer months with our children. We had an excellent turnout for the summer reading program.
- F. Old Business
 - a. Summer Program-just as with past summer programs, this one was a hit. We did have increased attendance from the public along with those that attend from the YMCA. Thank you to the Friends of the Clewiston Library as they funded each of our presenters as well as activity supplies, snacks, pizza for our grand finale and school supplies for the book bags that were given away. Thank you to Yogusto for their weekly donation of their yogurt fruit smoothies as well as the ice cream for the ice cream sundae bar. We also have to save a huge thank you to US Sugar for their donation of 100 book bags and many various school supplies. We could not have pulled this summer's

activities off without your help and the help and dedication from the library staff. Thank you all!!

G. New Business

- a. High School Non-Profit Event-Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Hayes attended a community event at the Clewiston High School on September 29th at Noon. This provided the library with an outreach opportunity to engage with our local teens.

Also discussed:

- i. Community Service Hours and volunteer opportunities
 - ii. Our current programs offered at the library
 - iii. Picked their brains a bit and asked what they would like to see at the library
 - iv. Discussed creating a youth book club and more
- b. Updated Circulation Policy-increased price for replacement cards from \$1.00 to \$2.00. Policy also now reflects the procedures on how staff would proceed with “difficult patrons” such as unruly, disrespectful, etc.
- c. State Aid-this year’s application data gathering stage is in process. The first portion/deadline is September 30th and the final/complete submission is due on December 1st.
- d. Library Roof-a discussion was held about the roof at the library’s budget workshop with the commission. After receiving a detailed report from a consultant hired by the City, the current fiscal year 2022-2023 allocated funding was not sufficient enough to cover the cost. The budget was increased for the upcoming budget year and we should have a new roof on the library by December is what we were told.

- e. ILS Software-we will be moving from TLC to Insignia by December 1st. This advanced software will be cloud based and has many other highly anticipated features which will even include a new, robust library webpage. The huge benefit here is that the library system will no longer have to pay 3 different companies (TLC, Useful, and OCS), but rather just 1. This also comes to us with a huge savings of over \$15,000.00 per year for the Cooperative.
 - f. Native American Event-We are scheduled to hold a Seminole Tribe of Florida speaking engagement on Tuesday, November 13th in order to celebrate National Native American Month. Mr. Gopher will also provide authentic Seminole cuisine “tastings” which will consist of swamp cabbage and pumpkin bread. This program will also occur at the Florida B. Thomas Library and Barron Library during the month of November.
 - g. December Event-Staff are working to provide a winter event which will include Santa Storytime, pictures, and more. Stay tuned for information.
- H. Date for Next Meeting-Thursday, November 16th at 5 p.m. (It was originally scheduled for Wednesday, November 15th, 2023 at 5 p.m. but due to an oversight by the Director, it was moved forward one day).
- I. Public Remarks-none
- J. Adjournment-5:55 p.m.