



LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Community Room - Lester Public Library
1001 Adams Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** –President Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. **ROLL CALL**
Board Members Present: David Pennefeather, Ned Guyette, Tracey Koach, Stanley Palmer, Katie Stone, Sharon Sleger, and Don Weiss. Members absent and excused Kathryn Gadd and Mary Glaser. Also present: Collette Tegen, President LPL Foundation, Bob Fay, Treasurer LPL Foundation, Chris Hamburg, Adult Services Coordinator, and Jeff Dawson, Director.
3. **INVITED GUESTS**
Lester Public Library Foundation President, Collette Tegen, with Lester Public Library Foundation Treasurer, Bob Fay, presented the Foundation’s annual allocation in the amount of \$50,710.00 to the Lester Public Library Board of Trustees. The Foundation’s endowment is \$1.3 million dollars and has grown significantly from its beginnings in February, 1984.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None
5. **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**
Motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2023, meeting, made by Guyette, second made by Pennefeather. Voice vote carried unanimously.
6. **RECEIVE AND FILE EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**
Motion to receive and file the expenditure and financial reports from October, 2023, made by Weiss, second made by Sleger. Voice vote carried unanimously.
7. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**
Sleger suggested the Board of Trustees send the Lester Public Library Foundation a thank you for the annual allocation, Dawson will craft a letter with President Palmer for signatures at the December 2023 meeting. Palmer shared an article from the November 10, 2023 Herald Times Reporter entitled – ‘Fired Librarians Turn to Federal Agency.’ The article discusses librarians who have been fired from libraries in Texas and elsewhere who had banned book displays in their libraries and their filing of workplace discrimination claims with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Stone shared with she is now a faculty member at the Lakeshore Technical College.
8. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
Dawson fielded questions concerning his monthly report.
9. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. Library Newsletter – November 2023
 - B. Raider Reporter, Issue #7, ‘Celebrate Nature, Literacy and Being Together’
 - C. HTR Article – ‘Hubert R. Wentorf Photo Collection Provides Glimpses into Two Rivers’ Past,’ by Bob Fay

10. **REPORT FROM CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE** – The 2024 City Budget public hearing is set for November 27, with final approval at the December 4 City Council meeting. The Library’s 8% budget increase was approved at the City Personnel and Finance Committee Thursday, November 9 with a 2 to 1 vote; the budget then goes in front of the entire Council November 27 and December 4. There will be a new Christmas event in December.
11. **REPORT FROM SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE** – No Report
12. **REPORT FROM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE** – County appointments include 6 members on the Expo-Ice Center Board, 1 member to the Human Services Board, 1 member to the Veterans Service Commission, and Don Zimmer to the Manitowoc Calumet Library System Board. New Emergency Management Director – Rhonda Green. Plan to borrow \$7.5 million to fund courthouse updates to HVAC, windows, and engineering and preparation for bids on the courthouse dome repair in 2025. Adopted the 2024 County Budget and Property Levy. Declared Manitowoc County America Recycles Day 2023.
13. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. 2024 Library Budget, no changes from the October budget presentation.
14. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Motion to allocate \$500.00 to the staff appreciation gathering made by Guyette, second made by Sleger. Voice vote carried unanimously.
15. **BOARD EDUCATION** – None
16. **CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None
17. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Koach, second made by Guyette. Voice vote carried unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Dawson