

**CITY OF ESCANABA
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES**

November 26, 2018

A meeting of the Escanaba Public Library Board of Trustees was held November 26, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in Room C102 of the Escanaba City Hall/Library Complex, Escanaba, MI 49829.

PRESENT: Elizabeth Keller, Janice Hallett, Tammy Wiles, Neil Hivala, Carolyn Stacey, Library Director, Members of the public (5).

ABSENT: Kathy Mason, Peggy Schumann

PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public in attendance introduced themselves as students of Bay College.

APPROVAL/CORRECTIONS(S) TO MINUTES: The minutes of October 22, 2018 were accepted on consensus.

APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: The agenda was accepted on consensus.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Use Measures: Reviewed.

Financials: Reports current through September were reviewed.

Administration: Priority projects for the next 3 -6 months include newspaper digitization project, facility upgrades and a potential fundraising campaign.

Library Programs/Services: *The Songs & Wisdom of Mr. Rogers* will be presented on December 4th at 6:30, featuring local talent Phil Lynch and Rebecca Bender. Sponsored by the Friends.

Youth programs for December include Lego Club (12/8), Storytime with Santa (12/15) and the EHS Student Book Club (12/15). Staff is planning to submit a grant to the Michigan Humanities Council Performer's Touring program. This grant funds 40% of the costs for arts/cultural programs and is a great opportunity to bring in outside talent. Library staff is preparing a new trivia night contest for January, based on Tolkein's *Lord of the Rings*. The event is scheduled for Thursday, January 24th at 6:30.

Library staff is planning a "Stitch in Time" crafting group that will meet twice per month. This is an informal evening for knitters, crochet, and needle-point enthusiasts to share projects, tips and ideas.

National Novel Writing Month has been going well and may evolve into an ongoing writer's group. The final event in the series will take place on Thursday, November 29th.

A series of consumer education programs targeted at seniors will continue in January and February with sessions on identity theft and online safety.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

A) **Library Renovations:** Director reviewed a draft facility improvement work plan to address some interior improvements as the library building approaches 25 years. Flooring, electrical and lighting upgrades were noted as necessities. Collaborative learning space, more comfortable seating, a well-defined teen area and re-purposing the existing reference desk were also discussed as possibilities. Funding for renovations would need to come through grants and donations. Director has identified some potential funding mechanisms including a crowd funding initiative through the MEDC. The need for some technical assistance in space planning and design as well as the anticipated need for architect's renderings for the MEDC program were discussed. The Board indicated general support of an "interior refreshment" of the library and the necessary technical assistance. Director will return at next meeting with additional information and recommendations, including plans for staff and public input.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next meeting will be Monday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:45p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Carolyn Stacey, Library Director

Approved


Elizabeth Keller, Chair