

Keene Memorial Library Board Meeting
Municipal Building-2nd Floor in the Large Conference Room
400 E. Military, Fremont, NE
6:30 P.M.
January 16, 2023
Minutes

Held at the Municipal Building – 2nd Floor Large Conference Room and Board President Linda McClain called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Roll Call

The following members were present: Linda McClain, Amanda Moenning and LeAnn Rathke. Becky Pence was absent and Ryan Fiala arrived at 6:35pm. Also present were: Laura England-Biggs, Library Director, Mayor Joey Spellerberg and City Administrator Jody Sanders. Office Associate Tracy Parr will be recording the meeting minutes,

Notice of Meeting and Agenda

The meeting was preceded by publicized notice in the Fremont Tribune and the agenda is posted in the East Office of Keene Memorial Library, temporarily located at 925 North Broad Street, online at www.fremontne.gov and distributed by email. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted continually for public inspection and is located near the entrance of the meeting room.

Agenda

Motion to adopt current agenda for January 16, 2023 regular meeting. Board Member Moenning moved, seconded by Board Member Rathke, to adopt the agenda for January 16, 2023 Library Board Meeting. Ayes: Rathke, Moenning and McClain. Motion carried 3-0.

Reading of Minutes

Board Member Rathke moved to dispense with and approve the November 21, 2022 board minutes, seconded by Board Member Moenning. Ayes: Rathke, Moenning and McClain. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business

Annual Report 2021-2022

Library Director England-Biggs spoke about what the report contains. Motion to approve of the report and have Library Board President sign and have it notarized was made by Board Member Rathke with Board Member Moenning seconding. Ayes: Fiala, Rathke, Moenning and McClain. Motion Carried 4-0.

Reports

Library Director's Report Month in Review

Director England-Biggs stated that she was going to start with the three goal areas from the Library Community Needs Response Plan and then move into general updates. The three areas for the CNRP are Expansion, Outreach and Partnerships.

Expansion has revolved around Owner Architect Contractor meetings every other week. A second grant request to the Fremont Area Community Foundation was submitted at the end of December.

Outreach has included Justine and Laura attending the Christmas Walk at the art gallery on November 26th where 275 people were in attendance. Justine attended Storytime with Santa at the art gallery with 70 in attendance. Director England-Biggs has been reading to the blue room at Head Start on most Wednesdays with approximately 13 kids each week. There are monthly story times at Salem Little Saints, kindergarten classes at Bergan, Milliken Park, Washington, Clarmar and Bell Field. Quarterly there are FHS Early Childhood class meetings as well as Senior Center and Towers outreach.

Partnerships include Nebraska Library Association Board meetings and Director England-Biggs stated that she recently had her last one as Past-President. Creative District meetings with the Nebraska Arts Council and a Budgeting 101 class with First State Bank & Trust are also happening. She participated in a City Council Strategic Planning Retreat on January 14, 2023 as a department head. She was also notified that she was selected by the American Library Association as a member of the Fund Libraries Congressional Fly-In team in March.

The library had a successful Dinovember Facebook event that engaged 460 people. A Wrap ‘n Yap event was held with very little turn out, but those who participated really appreciated the service. Looking to re-evaluate the timing of the event for next year and Jody Sanders suggested the 23rd of December. The library got approval on agreements for setting up an app for the library called myLibro. The first steps have been completed and now we are waiting on tech support to allow us to advance to the second stage. A Jeff Barnes speaking event titled “The Mad Queen of the Prairies: Frenzied First Years of the Nebraska Territory” was held at the art gallery with 23 people in attendance. No action taken

Expansion Project Update

Director England-Biggs mentioned that footings are in and the steel was delivered today. There will be a Topper Event coming up at the library. Donations were good at the end of the year with a few new pledges. No action taken.

Friends of the Library Update

Director England-Biggs informed the Board that the Friends chose not to meet in January and that Dave’s Drive In Liquor continues to do well. No action was taken.

Finance

It was mentioned that 1st report was incorrect and was amended to be 11/30 instead of 10/31. No action taken.

With no further business, motion to adjourn was made at 7:13 pm with Board Member Fiala making the motion and Board Member Rathke seconding. Ayes: Fiala, Rathke, Moenning and McClain. Motion Carried 4-0.

**Next Regular Board Meeting will be held February 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm –Municipal Building
2nd Floor, Large Conference Room.**

Prepared by Tracy Parr, Senior Office Associate

Signed by Amanda Moenning, Library Board Secretary