

**Sainte Genevieve County Library**  
**Open Meeting**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**March 11, 2024**

**Be it Remembered:** A meeting of the Sainte Genevieve County Library Board was called to order by Board Vice-President Melissa Otto on Monday, March 11, 2024 beginning at 12:04 p.m. at the Sainte Genevieve County Library located at 21388 Highway 32, Sainte Genevieve, MO 63670.

**Roll Call:** A quorum was established as Board members Vice-President Melissa Otto, Secretary Robert Bach, Treasurer Robin Reynolds and Member-at-Large Cindy Nugent answered *aye* to a roll call vote. Also attending were Library Executive Director Shawn Long, Assistant Library Director Lindsey Picou and Program Manager Missy McElligott.

**Approval of Agenda:** Robert Bach made a motion to approve the agenda. Cindy Nugent voiced a second. All Board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Cindy Nugent made a motion to approve the minutes for the February meeting. Robert Bach seconded the motion. All Board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Executive Director Shawn Long went over the Financial Reports and line items. Cindy Nugent made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Robin Reynolds voiced a second. All Board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the motion carried.

**Directors Report:** Executive Library Director Shawn Long offered his Directors Report:

**Hoopla Flex:** Director Long expressed great pleasure when sharing Hoopla numbers. Hoopla figures in a variety of uses for library programs including the Book Clubs. What proves to be problematic is the limited selections on Hoopla and complaints have arisen that some more popular titles are unavailable or that some titles are dated or not necessarily within current trends.

Using Hoopla Flex, an add-on feature, will sooth a number of these issues. It helps untangle both the purchase and check out processes which means that the wait for a particular title by a library patron might be reduced significantly. Director Long believes this will keep library content fresher and will potentially self-weed the collection. The Flex start-up cost of \$651.45 includes eight (8) audio books and two (2) e-audio books. Director Long looks toward greater flexibility with the digital collection with, perhaps, an additional ~\$120.00 a month for new titles.

**Solar Eclipse/Glasses:** The Library will be participating in the solar eclipse activities here at the community center on Monday April 8th. The Library will begin giving away eclipse glasses on March 25th. Local businesses are already selling them and the Library doesn't wish to compete. The Library will provide them to businesses for their employees and there are already a number of requests.

**Circulation Desk Modification:** The book check-in process has issues where books are returned and placed back on the shelf without being recorded as returned. The current book return process needs an additional link in the return sequence. Director Long has contacted Klump Cabinets to see if the Circulation desk can be fitted with a drop box. The cost will be compared with the purchase of an additional drop-box (with wheels) that may approach \$1,800 -\$2,000.

**Library Visit:** Lindsey Picou, Misty McElligott and Director Long visited Nama Chibitty's library a few weeks ago to check out a very successful program that he uses called Tummy Time. This program is a modified story time that focuses on the 0-3 age group and includes more songs and one-on-one time with parents. Lindsey is working on a wish list of items that the Library would need to start the program. The Friends of the Library will be asked to support this new program. Current Story Time numbers are significantly lower than last year and that is attributed to many of Library children regulars approaching Pre-School.

**Evergreen Conference:** Lindsey Picou and Director Long will be attending the upcoming Evergreen Conference in April. This is a great opportunity for them to learn more about the ILS and how it may help our local endeavors.

**Funding:** There is a slim chance the legislature may pass a bill that is designed to remove vehicles from property tax in response to last year's increases. Currently, the Library get all its tax funding from property tax. Director Long believes this new bill, should it pass, may provide an adverse effect. A boost in Library revenue was expected last year but was never realized. If this bill does become a reality, collectively the board and the Library will have to discuss getting a proposition before the public to help make up for any drop in revenue. A sad alternative is to reduce services and programs.

**HB 2498:** This bill is out of committee and would require all Library board members be elected. There was so much push back from libraries about this due to costs (\$9,000-plus ballot fees) that the originator of the bill remediated the cost language. It appears that two-thirds of the legislature voice favor with one-third against. A puzzlement indeed.

**Grants:** The Library submitted a Penguin Random House grant to help improve our Large Print Collection. Word may come by the end of this month as to success or disappointment. The Senior Citizen Grant has been submitted and success or disappointment is forthcoming perhaps in May. The Library was one of 300 public libraries nationwide to receive Children's Financial Education kits, we should be receiving them by May/June.

**End of Year Donation:** The Shushbooth was ordered in early January and there is no firm date yet for delivery, but Director Long completed the required paperwork. A lift gate cannot be used for this delivery. It will require a forklift. So, a forklift is needed for a brief twenty minutes or so. Plan B may require young backs and strong arms.

**Strategic Planning Update:** Survey results are in and are very positive. Director Long has a copy should anyone like to review. Director Long is in continuing liaison with the organization developing the plan with another face-to-face meeting as early as tomorrow. Current focus is on the history of the library and the community such that it attempts a look at future requirements.

**Library Mini Golf:** Initial planning meeting was two weeks ago. Everything is going well.

**Virtual Tour:** This continues to be producing reasonable numbers. A good showcase for the library.

**Library Visitors:** Numbers remain steady and positive with request for library cards within acceptable parameters.

**Solar Eclipse:** This unique cosmological event also coincides with Director Long's having other obligations on the day of the April meeting, and a few board members voiced conflicting activity such that, after discussion, Robert Bach made a motion to not meet during the month April but have Director Long email to the board those documents that illustrate finances, and the numbers that focus on Library activity. Cindy Nugent seconded the motion. All Board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the motion carried.

**Meeting Adjournment:** There being no further business before the board, Robin Reynolds made a motion to adjourn. Cindy Nugent voiced a second. All board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the open meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m. Next meeting is Monday, May 13th, 2024 at noon.

Respectfully:

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Melissa Otto  
Board Vice President  
Sainte Genevieve County Library



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Robert E. Bach  
Board Secretary  
Sainte Genevieve County Library