

Sainte Genevieve County Library
Open Meeting
Board of Trustees
September 9, 2024

Be it Remembered: A meeting of the Sainte Genevieve County Library Board was called to order by Board President Jean Johnson on Monday, September 9, 2024 beginning at 12:00 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 President Jean Johnson, 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 and Assistant Library Director Lindsey Picou.

Approval of Agenda: Melissa Otto 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.

Open Forum: Board Member-at-Large Cindy Nugent voiced praise at the positive, public, response to the mini-golf course as was temporarily constructed in the library (more below). Uttering's of a home-school mom praised Hoopla for providing continued youth interest; and another person was heard to say that good things appear to sit on the horizon as plans for library expansion unfold. Opportunities were exploited with regards to informing the public of the library's need to regain a workable tax rate to make said expansion a reality.

Approval of Minutes: Robin Reynolds made a motion to approve minutes from the previous meeting. Melissa Otto voiced a second. 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:

State Survey Completed: The state survey was completed and submitted in more than ample time whereupon Director Long lobbied Corey Mihalik from the State Library for an expedited evaluation. There was a slight, easily remedied, glitch with the remaining submission receiving successful review. The survey success triggered a discussion between Director Long and staff that insures future program updates will include the proper information needed from the state. The survey was not really required due to SGCLIB not receiving ANY state funds. The goal was to provide information to determine our potential standing amongst all other libraries in the state.

Assistant Director Lindsey Picou: Lindsey Picou has opted to become a volunteer firefighter with Ste. Genevieve's Fire Department! Within the past month she has begun to attend required meetings and has taken advantage of certified vehicle extrication training with a sister depart-

ment near Jackson, Missouri. She made this brave and honorable decision subsequent to July's Chamber Leadership class. Her firefighting endeavors will not impact her library duties.

Hoopla has been reduced: The recent Hoopla bill arrived at a not unexpected number. With the addition of Hoopla Flex a reduction of checkouts per month from Hoopla Instant was of some notice. Director Long seeks reduction of the cost of this service over the next few months. The next step will be to reduce the cost per items available to patrons. Director Long believes access to fewer quality titles is more desirable than quantity.

Non-resident Card Fee: The need for additional revenue was discussed with specific focus on the fee charged to those nonresident patrons that make use of the SGC library. Research conducted by Director Long via voice and email communication with library directors in neighboring counties settled on an increase that was considered reasonable and justifiable. Fees had not been raised for a number of years. After good and reasonable discussion Robert Bach made a motion to increase the fee charged nonresidents to an annual amount of fifteen dollars (\$15). Robin Reynolds voiced a second. All Board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the motion carried.

Submitted Grants: Again, the SGCLIB was one of 300 public libraries nationwide to receive Children's Financial Education kits. They have been received and are working in developing various programs.

Grants: Regarding the Dollar General Grant; it was unsuccessful. Within the grant writing community, the general consensus is there are fewer grant opportunities, and more people applying for them making these grants very competitive.

Programs: In August the SGCLIB conducted fifteen (15) programs and enjoyed 357 participants during the month. Programs saw two (2) bake clubs, an end of Summer Reading program, Story Times and Book Clubs among others. Activity also featured a Pressed Flower Lantern program that was also very popular.

Library Mini Golf: This event unfolded with a magnificently significant 109 "duffers" slicing their way through a course that rivaled Scotland's St. Andrews and the Master's Classic in Augusta, Georgia! Several board members anted up their green fees and took the challenge. No carpet divots were found after the event; the only club allowed was a putter and none were found broken or damaged.

Strategic Planning: The consultant indicated one final visit. Director Long will pass to the board the dates that shall see that event.

September Programs:

September 13th - *Honey I Shrunk the Kids* Movie night

September 19th - Mini Painting 101

Outreach Tracking: The month of August saw eight (8) outreach events that reached an estimated 646 people.

Library Visits: Real, and virtual, visits remain within favorable parameters. Story Time attendance, library card registration, Hoopla usage, tech assistance requests, and Dial-A-Story usage indicate a good community/library cohesion.

Discussion arose regarding the October availability of several board members due specifically to scheduled medical procedures that shall require a brief, but necessary, home-bound confinement. Dialogue resulted in the cancellation of the October Open Meeting with the next Open Meeting taking place in November. Contingency plans shall allow board confluence should it be necessary.

Meeting Adjournment: There being no further business before the board, Cindy Nugent made a motion to adjourn. Melissa Otto voiced a second. All board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the open meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m. Next meeting is Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 at noon.

Respectfully:

Jean Johnson
Board President
Sainte Genevieve County Library



Robert E. Bach
Board Secretary
Sainte Genevieve County Library