

Dorothy Hull Library
Windsor Charter Township
Board Meeting
Thursday, August 12, 2021 6:00 PM

Minutes

Present: Watson, Runels, Robbins, Gould, Wood, Kyler, Sanders, Wagemaker
President Watson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Sanders introduced the newest member to library staff: Wendy Guilfoyle.

Public Comment: None

Minutes: Motion by Runels, support Gould to approve the July 8th, 2021 minutes. Motion Carried 6-0.

Reports:

a. Financial Reports: Motion by Gould support Robbins to approve the July financial reports pending audit. Motion Carried 6-0.

Old Business:

a. ARPA Grant proposal status – Sanders said “everything is on track” and that it is a matter of waiting. Our library is among sixty-one applicants, and the amount of those requests exceeds the amount available to award.

New Business:

a. Circulation Policy revision. Discussion. The suggestion was made to add to the policy that there would be no reimbursement for material lost if paid and returned after ninety days.

b. Report on meeting with Township Supervisor. Runels reported that the possibility of the library becoming part of the township as a commission. This would involve appointment of the board, rather than election. Otherwise Runels felt few things would change other than the fact that by being part of the township, funding might be more secure. Sanders advised that we currently are under section 10 of Act 164 of 1877, which requires the board to be elected. To be part of the township would mean dissolving our current status, would involve advise from an attorney, and possibly an election to form a different type of library establishment.

Robbins stated that if we received an additional \$15,000 each year from the township for the next five years, that at that point we would be fully funded if our budget did not increase more than 3% a year. Many questions and concerns were expressed. At present spending practices, we will not be able to meet the state requirement of three tenths of a mill as established by library law, because our savings will be depleted by 2024. Requests for funding the library must be submitted before September to the Township Board for their budget planning. Sanders agreed to seek out data on other township libraries out there that are considered part of the government entity rather than being autonomous.

After much discussion regarding library funding and status, Runels asked that board members consider all the various possibilities and submit questions and concerns to him with the next two weeks.

Information, Announcements, Etc.

(a) Library Director's report: Summer reading had an enrollment of 76. Runels removed the old water fountain, which has been replaced with a five gallon dispenser. Penal fines have been received and were slightly higher than expected, and will be reflected in the August financial reports. A letter of resignation was received from Deb Szwejda effective October 1nd. The OCI digitalized yearbook project has been completed. Some yearbooks are absent from the 1940's and 1950's. An effort will be made to query the public to help fill those voids.

Wagemaker has spent a lot of time improving the library website and expanding the social media platforms. She is hopeful patrons will take advantage of the many entertainment discounts available by using their library cards.

b. Circulation Report: July increase in circulation was noted.

c. Committee Reports:

(a) Community Engagement Committee: The committee has been meeting monthly and consists of three library board members and three members from the community. Their activities include the July parade, a trivia game at the August 5 farmer's market and plans for a library 70th birthday celebration the 2nd of October.

(b) Finance Committee: Again, the committee stressed that, under present funding, we will run out of money by the end of 2023 if we continue to do what we are doing. The committee will meet again tomorrow to discuss the issue further.

(c) Township and Joint Library Committee: Much of this discussion occurred under New Business. Both Runels and Robbins presented their perspectives.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Motion by Runels, support Wood that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried 6-0.

7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Inge M. Kyler