



Library Board April 2024 Meeting

April 10, 5:30 pm
Community Meeting Room

Call to order: SAA, MA, DB, CC, JC, MJ, SJ, MR

1. Approve Agenda
2. Approve Minutes March 2024
3. Public Comment
4. Continuing Business
 - a. Renewal Plan Next Steps
5. New Business
 - a. Technology Services Policy
6. Director's Report
 - a. Statistical Report
 - b. Financial Report
7. Adjourn

Director's Report

Renovation Update

Yea!! Many people, contributing time, energy and positive discussions made this possible. Thanks so much!! Ashland voters approved the \$4.3M bond for library projects by 138 votes. I will be working with Alex Ramesy, Engberg Anderson Architects to get a contract for the design/bid stage. The city of Ashland Counsel will accept the contract. I will propose a building project management team that will work with Alex, probably composed of me, the facilities foreman and City Planner Stephen Wiley. We will also work with library staff and the library board to gain any additional feedback. The expected timeline is 8 months - a year for everything to be in place to begin construction.

Grants

Pam Hayes and I will begin digging into private foundations and any other state/federal grants that seem a good fit for phase 2. We will prioritize the two historic entrances and then the third floor meeting rooms. The big grant request we have out to the WI DOA will not be awarded until the fall. I think there were more submissions than expected so they are behind in evaluating all the proposals.

Programs/Events

Planning for summer reading is underway. We continue to have families attend Family Night, open lego time and Pokemon. The adult book club, Book Buzz, seems to be gaining some new popularity.

On the Horizon

Planning, planning, planning.... Lisa & Sam are weeding the collections so there is no extra weight when we begin moving around. There are two open offices on the 3rd floor we can occupy as work space. I'll put together a list of alternative meeting space in the community for all of our clubs, associations, organizations and small business people so they can begin planning for the "disruption".

Book Recommendation

Brave the Wild River: the untold story of two women who mapped the botany of the Grand Canyon by Melissa Sevigny is a tribute to the passion some people have for exploring and cataloging the natural world. Professor Elzada Clover and her graduate student Lois Jotter partnered with a relatively "green" boat crew to traverse the Colorado River, collecting plants along the way. It is amazing they all did not die! Pretty interesting account of an early (1938) trip down one of the more treacherous American rivers.

Sarah Adams, Director

