

OWEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Owen County Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, December 17, 2024.

Call to Order

President Petzinger called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Attending the meeting were Rachele Cobb, Wes Petzinger, Glenn Manns, Mark McMillen, Martha Hamilton, Assistant Director Kim Hunter, and Director Cyndi Clifton. Also attending was KDLA Regional Consultant Chris Bischoff.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of minutes

Trustee Petzinger made a motion to approve the minutes for November. Trustee Cobb seconded. All voted aye.

Financial Reports and Disbursements

The general operating account and the reconciliation details were reviewed as well as the credit card expenses for the month. All expenses were in line with the approved budget. The Director reported OCPL received the largest tax payment ever for one month. We are now in a positive position. Trustee Hamilton made the motion to approve the Financial Report. Trustee McMillen seconded. All voted aye.

Library Statistics

On the Library Statistics Report for November 2024, we had 2241 patrons who used all library services. 37 programs were held with 1346 participants. Public computer users numbered 326. The website had 729 hits. Circulation was 4831. Inter-library loans numbered 33 for the month, and Hoopla/Overdrive had 606 users. The Director reported good participation in the library programs. Hoopla continues to grow. In the future additional money may need to be taken from book budget for this growth.

Regional Librarian Report KDLA

KDLA has published the 2025 Kentucky Public Library Calendar. It includes state holidays, training sessions, E-rate funding form deadline, and annual report deadline. Mr. Bischoff spoke briefly about some of the calendar items. He also stated the regional consultant positions are all now filled.

Librarian's Report

Adult Services Position – Aida Tatulian has been Adult Services Librarian for two weeks and is doing well. She has many program ideas but is concentrating on learning circulation right now.

GED Testing Center – The OCPL Director has decided not to apply for the GED Testing Center. Instead, the library will re-purpose two of the public computers for GED testing. The additional items needed total less than \$500 and can easily be handled within the operating budget under Electronic Resources. Some of these items are a computer cart, signature pad, network switch, and locked storage for test taker. The goal is to be a testing center by spring.

Kaileigh Burgess Scholarship – Kaileigh is pursuing her Master's Degree in Library Science at the University of Kentucky beginning in January. She has received \$750 from the Kentucky State Board for

the Certification of Librarians to help with the cost. She will apply for the tuition reimbursement passed by the OCPL Board. ALA offers an \$8000 scholarship which she has applied for as well. She has also been accepted into Leadership Owen County. All full-time staff of OCPL have participated in this program.

Christmas Extravaganza – December 12 was a great evening of Christmas music and crafts coordinated by Julie Donahue and assisted by the entire staff. The attendance was approximately 320.

Business Items


Trustee Vacancy Discussion – Mark McMillen’s term will end June 30. The Board needs to begin the discussion about how to handle this. Mark will inform board members of his intention to run for another term or to step down. If he wishes to run again, the Board will need one more nominee. If he does not, the Board will need 2 names for nomination. The Director will advertise for interested individuals on our Facebook page. The trustee application form is on the OCPL website.

Discussion with Regional Consultant Chris Bischoff – It was a pleasure to have our regional consultant observe our meeting and to answer questions. The Board members asked him about censorship issues around the state. He also offered comments on controversial displays.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 9:30 at the Owen County Public Library. Trustee McMillen made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Manns seconded. All voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Martha Hamilton, Secretary



January 21, 2025