

Talcott Free Library Board Meeting

Monday, January 20, 2025

Members Present: A. Floto, L. Floto, D. Garlow, R. Geddeis, G. Kovanda. Director M. Gove.

Absent: T. Garlow, A. Ragaller.

Members of the Public: 9.

President Kovanda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Public Comment: None.

Guest Hannah Cullerton of Lauterbach & Amen, LLP, appeared on video to discuss the annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The audit states that our financial information is presented fairly and free of material misstatement. Geddeis inquired whether the library's book collection is considered a capital asset for the audit. It is not. There are three upcoming accounting changes made by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, which the auditor will monitor to determine any implications for our library. The video visit lasted 9 minutes.

Secretary's Report: Kovanda moved, and A. Floto seconded, to accept this report as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: L. Floto moved, and Geddeis seconded, to approve the November and December treasurer's reports. Unanimous approval.

Librarian's Report: A. Floto moved, and Kovanda seconded, to approve this report and the payment of bills for November and December. Approval was unanimous. Director's update listed 21 items including work with strategic planning, planning the holiday staff party, a successful Friends of Talcott book sale and Adopt a Book program, prevented the sale of a library book on Facebook Marketplace (offender was not identified), purchased blinds for a skylight, reinvested matured CDs, purchased 4 new kids' tablets, was invited to Innovative Users Group conference in Denver (Prairie Cat to cover expenses), planned AARP tax assistance running from February 10 to April 7, met with new District 140 superintendent Kevin Finnegan, filed ballot certification with the county elections office, answered several FOIA requests, and reached out to Dairyhäus for rent payment and lease terms. Attended 6 online classes/webinars. Attended 9 in person conferences/meetings.

Building and Grounds Report: Discussed the need for automatic door assistance for restrooms, which was not included in the original construction project. Pending research and cost estimates, this improvement could be scheduled sometime in the next fiscal year.

New Business: Approval of Per Capita grant application was moved by Kovanda and seconded by A. Floto. This is the only grant the library currently receives. Motion carried unanimously. The lease proposal for 113 E. Main was discussed. An increase in rent based on the consumer price index was discussed. Kovanda suggested proposing a 3% increase. Two other policy measures were held over to the February meeting so the full board could consider them.

Adjournment: A. Floto moved, and L. Floto seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. Adjournment at 7:22 p.m.

Submitted by: Loren Floto, Secretary