

**Regular Meeting  
Peru Public Library District  
Board of Trustees  
13 January 2022  
6:00 pm**

Present: Jean Carter, Linda Hiltabrand, Mary Lindenmeyer, Doug Olivero, Larry Sittler, Mike Watts, Bo Windy and Director Charm Ruhnke

Guest: Lynn Sheedy

1. Call to order: Mike Watts called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Changes to agenda: The item 2021 Year in Review was added to the Librarian's report.
3. Public comments: There were no public comments.
4. Approval of minutes of 18 November 2021 meeting: Mary Lindenmeyer moved to accept the minutes of 18 November 2021 meeting with corrections, Doug Olivero seconded. The motion carried.
5. Financial report
  - a. Approve disbursements for December 2021 and January 2022: Bo Windy moved to approve disbursements for December 2021 and January 2022, Doug Olivero seconded. The motion carried.
  - b. Accept financial report for January 2022: Larry Sittler moved to accept the financial report for January 2022, Doug Olivero seconded. The motion carried.
6. Correspondence
  - a. Thank you notes: The Board received a note of thanks from Beth Hickey, Brenda Sadnick and other staff members for Christmas gifts received. Ficek Electric sent a note to the library thanking them for their business.
7. Librarian's report
  - a. 2021 Year in Review: Patrons using the Peru Public Library saved over one million dollars in 2021 by borrowing 37,320 books, 6,983 DVDs, 174 video games and much more. Program participation topped 9,000 people and digital collections were used over 23,000 times. Director Ruhnke compiled a list of items/services that were used by patrons in 2021 and it totaled 120,702 with a dollar value of \$1,016,337.24. Close to 36,000 people walked through the library doors last year.
8. Prior meeting follow-up
  - a. Covid update: Director Ruhnke advised the Board should insufficient staffing become an issue for the library, she will consider reducing hours or returning to lobby service.

9. President's report

- a. Appoint Strategic Planning committee: Mike Watts and Linda Hiltabrand were appointed to serve on the Strategic Planning committee.
- b. Illinois OSHA consultation: President Watts contacted OSHA and requested a consultation and an inspection of the library was scheduled. Two OSHA inspectors did a thorough walk through of the library on January 11, 2022. A report of their findings will be sent to the library in 2 weeks.

10. Executive session: There was no call for executive session.

11. Action and/or discussion items

- a. Strategic Plan: The February Board meeting will include Amanda Standerfer of Standerfer Consulting. Amanda will be discussing Strategic Plan steps and timeline with the Board.
- b. Board meeting dates for FY2022/23: Mary Lindenmeyer moved to approve the Board meeting dates for FY2022/2023 with corrections, Doug Olivero seconded. The motion carried.
- c. Fine Free: Discussion was held regarding moving forward with the plan eliminate overdue fines on library materials, not including hotspots and Roku devices. Director Ruhnke reported 25% of the libraries included in the PrairieCat consortium have gone fine free or are in the process of doing so. Linda Hiltabrand moved to become a Fine Free library, Doug Olivero seconded. The motion carried.
- d. Lost Card Fee: With fines being eliminated, Director Ruhnke suggested also eliminating the \$2 fee for library card replacement due to loss or damage. Mary Lindenmeyer moved to eliminate the loss card fee, Bo windy seconded. The motion carried.
- e. Star Model collection: A library patron offered to donate his Star Model collection to the library. This collection includes bottles, caps, barrels and other paraphernalia. It was decided to view the collection before deciding to accept it.

12. Board Orientation – Building tour, time permitting: The building tour has been rescheduled for a later date.

13. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Submitted by: Jean Carter, Board Secretary