

Library Board Meeting Minutes May 10, 2021

Members present: Finander, Fournier, Gold, Lehmann, Peterson, Radloff, Romenesko, Rund, Tetrick and Halgren (staff)

Absent: (excused)

Meeting called to order at 8:52 p.m.

Virtual City Council Worksession preceded the meeting at 7 p.m.

Consent Agenda

- Minutes - moved by Rund, seconded by Romenesko, roll call vote, passed unanimously.
- Bills - moved by Rund, seconded by Fournier, roll call vote, passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Virtual Library Cards for SSP Students

- On April 27, a large group of staff representatives from the School District, Dakota County Library System and SSP library met to discuss the general procedures and considerations in implementing a virtual card program up at SSP high school.
- On May 3, a smaller, more focused group met to discuss a communications plan for rolling out virtual library cards to 6th-12th graders in the district. Discussion centered around various ways to get the word out to the public, school staff, and the students themselves. Originally, the plan was to get teachers on board with the program in May, but this may be tabled until next fall when the teachers arrive back for the new school year with students signing up for the program in their third/fourth week of school. Some ideas were short video presentations for staff; student affinity groups; social media; newsletters/newspapers, Peach Jar; teacher "homerooms" for all students; student mentors; podcasts; school-based communication channels, etc.

New Business

Circulation Stats

- April's circulation was 4,924 items. Because we were closed last April, a percentage would be meaningless; however, this figure is down 38.92% over April 2019 when COVID wasn't on the scene. Still, we're up 41.9% from March's circulation, so we're moving in the right direction.

DC Programming Study Presentation from Worksession

- The Library Board attended a virtual presentation by Jay Biedny, Dakota County Capital Projects Manager, regarding the results of the County's Programming Study for a renovated or new library building with the possibility of SSP Library merging with the Dakota County Library System.
- Basic cost estimates and design elements were presented with the conclusion that the project team recommends building on the City-owned property at 7th and Marie Aves.
- Discussion focused on possible timelines for different approaches, and different implications for joining/not joining the County system. It was also discussed how building at the 7th and Marie site and joining the County system means that the library will continue for South St. Paul into the future, and that the County will continue to invest in the library in South St. Paul as needs of the community change. There was also hesitation among board members due to not knowing how much the County was willing to invest in a new building at the 7th and Marie site, what the design would be, and what the future plans are for the existing library building.

- Peterson moved to recommend moving forward with construction of a new library at the 7th and Marie site on the City-owned parcel (option 1B), with full funding of the Base Program (16,146 GSF). Seconded by Lehmann.
- The roll call:
 - Finander - No
 - Fournier – Yes
 - Gold – Yes
 - Lehmann - Yes
 - Peterson - Yes
 - Radloff - Yes
 - Romenesko - Yes
 - Rund - No
 - Tetrick – Yes

Yes – 7 No – 2; the motion passes.

- Halgren will relay the vote to City Manager Hanson and discuss next steps (resolution from Library Board for Council meeting, etc.)

The rest of the agenda was tabled due to the late hour and will be taken up at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Next meeting – June 14, 2021

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Fournier
Secretary, Library Board

Programming Statistics

April and partial May 2021

Dates	# Programs	Program Name	Program Audience	Attendance
APRIL				
2-Apr	1	Tech Tutoring	Adult	1
6-Apr	1	Virtual Storytime	Children Virtual	4
7-Apr	1	Kori McKibben's PreK Morning Meeting	Children Virtual	10
7-Apr	1	Mandy Hackerson's PreK Afternoon Meeting	Children Virtual	12
8-Apr	1	Evening Book Discussion	Adult Virtual	8
12-Apr	1	Take and Make for Kids: Paper Plate Sewing Chick	Children	26
13-Apr	1	Virtual Storytime	Children Virtual	3
20-Apr	1	Virtual Storytime	Children Virtual	6
21-Apr	1	Kori McKibben's PreK Morning Meeting	Children Virtual	8
22-Apr	1	Be My Neighbor Day activity books	Children	44
25-Apr	1	4 in 4 - April 2021	Adult Virtual	(year-end tally)
27-Apr	1	Virtual Storytime	Children Virtual	5
total	12			127
MAY				
5-May	1	Kori McKibben's PreK Morning Meeting	Children Virtual	8
5-May	1	Mandy Hackerson's PreK Afternoon Meeting	Children Virtual	11