

Fruitport District Library Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Anna Dudas at 5:33 p.m.
Present: Ruth Woodward, Bill Overkamp, Nan Riekse, Anna Dudas, and Pat Walstra.
Also, in attendance: Matt Lubbers-Moore and Julie Sanderson.
The agenda was approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

REPORTS

Maintenance Report: For now, the library driveway and walkways are being done by the Village. Matt may know someone that could also come throughout the day when needed. He will check with that person. Thus far there have been no letters of interest submitted for the maintenance opening. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of “contracting” with a local company. Trustee Walstra will look into this further and make some calls.

Library Report: The Director reported that December was a very good month with increased numbers for regular programming as well as circulation. He also reported that we have switched from ordering books from Baker/Taylor to Micro Marketing. Baker/Taylor always mailed their invoices to him, but Micro Marketing only posts on the website, so he has not been up to date on spending totals. We are over budget on that line item and will need to make adjustments with the new budget in March.

Secretary’s Report: Motion by Trustee Overkamp supported by Trustee Walstra to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: A review of financial information was presented by Trustee Dudas who explained that going forward, Trustee Riekse, as the treasurer will be preparing and presenting the monthly report.

A motion was made by Trustee Woodward, supported by Trustee Riekse to approve payment of bills totaling \$18,137.63. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

With the change in board members and officers, a number of changes need to be made to our accounts. Deposit locations and responsibilities were also discussed. A motion was made by Trustee Woodward and supported by Trustee Walstra to make President Dudas and Treasurer Riekse the authorized signatories on any/all library financial institutions. The vote: Dudas – aye; Woodward – aye; Overkamp – aye; Riekse – aye; Walstra – aye. Nays – none. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss Land Meeting Progress: Trustee Woodward stated that there had been no response to her emails regarding meeting with the representatives for the property on Mt. Garfield Rd.

Yesterday, she finally received a text stating that the trust involved with this property would receive no benefit in making it a donation. Therefore, they rescinded that offer. He did state, however that the price of the property was negotiable. We will pursue this further after Trustee Woodward and Trustee Walstra meet with Todd Dunham, the Township Supervisor regarding the property on Quarterline Rd. The main issue with the library remaining in its current location and possibly with the Quarterline location is ownership. More discussion will follow next month.

Report on Boiler work by Jewett Heating & Cooling: This repair has been completed.

Letter to Village and Township regarding appointment of board member: The Village approved the reappointment of Trustee Overkamp. No letter has been sent to the Township yet, as the personnel committee has not been able to meet with new candidates. They hope to accomplish this and make recommendations next week. The board was provided with copies of the letters of interest and encouraged to send thoughts and comment to the committee.

Library Liability Insurance Discussion (outcome): There has been no response from the Village to Former Trustee Dillon's email.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Board Members: Interviews had to be postponed this week due to weather conditions. A motion was made by Trustee Dudas and supported by Trustee Woodward to approve whomever the personnel committee chooses to fill the two open positions on the board. Once the committee has chosen, they will inform the board and send the recommendation directly to the Township, in an effort to speed up the process and ensure that the new members are in place for our next meeting.

Appointments to Committees: The following are the committee appointments for 2026.

Personnel Committee: Riekse, Woodward, Walstra, Director Lubbers-Moore

Finance Committee: Riekse, Dudas, Overkamp, Director Lubbers-Moore

Building Committee: All board members.

It was suggested that once a decision is made regarding where the library will be, we should appoint a 3 person Building committee. More on this later.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Motion by Riekse, supported by Walstra to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Woodward