

Headingley Library Board Minutes

October 4, 2023

4:45 pm

Present: Gail Bell, Susan Stuart, Wendy McKenzie, Jim Robson, Alison Au, Jodee Karlowsky

Regrets: Dawn Dunford, Rhiana Kaspick Stranges

1. Called to Order by Gail at 4:45 pm
2. Minutes of May 29, 2023 adopted as circulated. Motioned by Jim, seconded by Wendy.
3. Librarians Report - Alison Au

Financials

- Received grant from province - \$48,500 (\$41,000 in 2022)
- Received technology grant from province - \$2007
- Received \$19,000 provincial grant for circulation desk renovation
- 41 new non-resident patrons this year = \$2460 in extra revenue
- Applied for \$4000 grant from Headingley Community Foundation for collection development to supplement adult programing and children's collection in anticipation of visits from Phoenix School
- Staffing is a little higher than budgeted due to not receiving the CSJ grant this year. However, we received \$7000 more than budgeted from our provincial grant, which will offset this
- Programming amounts and computer equipment are higher than budgeted because we used the \$4000 HCF grant to purchase makerspace materials for the children's department and two circulation computers which died on us over the summer.

Summer Stats:

- 10, 587 people visited the library this summer
- 14,558 items circulated
- 52 new memberships this summer
- Definite decline in movie, audiobook and magazine circulations, which confirms decision to reduce or eliminate spending in these categories
- Social media followers and website traffic increased over the summer due to Summer Reading programing.

Programming

- Book club resumed in September after taking the summer off. Our attendance is almost at capacity for this event and we are looking at taking registration going forward. Feedback has been very positive, with new members in September due to reading our social media posts
- Summer Reading Program – Jessie did things a little differently this year and eliminated the craft portion of story time and replaced it with a weekly makerspace program funded by the 2022 HCF grant
- Wind Up – Our Read By Queens drag queen story time event was definitely a highlight of the year. We made Winnipeg Reddit, CBC web news and radio news and received in-person support from the MLA and PLS. Approximately 75 people in total attended the event. There were several complaints both within the community and from Manitoba in general. Council and Alison met in August to formulate a response. The positive feedback from this event far outweighed the negative and we are grateful for the support of council.

Staffing

- Jessie will continue at children's librarian for the foreseeable future. She is beginning her online studies this fall out of the University of Arizona where she is taking her Library Science degree online
- Part time staff are all performing extremely well.

Community Outreach

- Phoenix School has asked us to accommodate students' library classes this year due to cutbacks and renovations at the school. Details are still to be ironed out but Patrick Betz discussed once or twice a school cycle. The library has applied for a grant from Headingley Community Foundation to add to our children's collection in a way which will support the Phoenix curriculum. We're very excited to be partnering with the school as it's something we've been trying to initiate for years.
- Alison will be a presenter at Headingley Seniors Services Lunch and Learn program in November. The library will be hosting an instruction session on ereading and providing hands-on learning using an iPad and a kobo. We will also be introducing them to Daisy readers, which are available for people with vision limitations to listen to audio books without the hassle of downloading an app
- The library donated a prize to the craft sale in October.

Library Community

- A Manitoba Library Association conference was held on September 25 at Portage la Prairie library. Alison, together with the librarians from Brandon and Winkler/Morden, was invited to present on Headingley Library's experiences with challenges from the public around our LGBTQ+ collections and programming. Mary and Alison attended the free conference and it was extremely informative and helpful
- Headingley Library was featured in the Manitoba Library Association's newsletter regarding our Drag Queen Storytime event.

4. New Business

- a. Total Custom Builders Ltd. will provide a quote for the circulation desk renovation to take place this winter thanks to a provincial grant

5. Municipal Report – Jim Robson

- a. Crane Steel was awarded the contract for the north hall community centre expansion and broke ground in October. The project should be complete by this time next year. Gym will include changing rooms, an area for weights, yoga, etc.
- b. The new baseball diamonds will be functional by 2025. Must wait a year for the grass to be usable
- c. New skating paths will be created at the Phoenix rink this winter
- d. Bright Beginnings flooded this summer and has been operating out of the south hall on Seekings. Repairs are almost finished on the daycare building.
- e. The new daycare adds 74 spots for childcare in Headingley (which are already spoken for)
- f. A new water reservoir has been added in the west of Headingley to assist the fire department

6. Next meeting: November 2, 2023.

7. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm