

North Logan Library Board Meeting 1-12-2023 minutes

Those in attendance: Emily Wheeler, Jenny Lyman, Janean Huppi, Linda Young, Liz Carr, Charlotte Brennand, James Britsch (Library Director), Emily Schmidt (City Council representative), Lisa Wilcox (Friends of the Library President).

Potential Library Board Members: Becky Bridgen, Kristin Gritton, Linda L'Ai

December minutes were moved to be approved by Liz; Janean seconded, all voted in favor

City Council Report:

City had to change some of their plans for the with the lot next to the Police Station, because the Smiling H Ranch section will be developed after the south lots. Because of this there is not construction blocking the previous police department entrance and the police are using the library parking lot as a road to get to their building. Discussion of putting up signs or some kind of barricade to make the parking lot turned road safer. Emily Schmidt will address that with the city.

The secondary water has been put in, they are tearing up concrete and will be able to start footings for the new city building soon.

In the December council meeting they also mentioned funding gaps for the community center that will need to be closed. It is assumed that it is more a problem of asking the same people and groups for donations and that has somewhat dried up.

Friends Report:

Friends are helping fund the Regency Ball and Tea.

Janean asked if North Logan Library's fundraising would be impacted as Logan City Library begins their fundraising. The prevailing thought is that it would be.

In an aside it was brought up that multiple attempts were made to create a county library system, but that initiative has never passed. Becky Bridgen mentioned it may be beneficial if resources were combined. James explained that currently there is interlibrary loans with the other local libraries allowing patrons to access their material. Charlotte briefly explained that many years ago it was decided that the county would have the airport and the city would have the library.

Budget:

Linda reported that we are half way through the fiscal year. Currently we are running \$31,000 over budget. \$20,000 of this can be attributed to the software upgrade. The bulk of the other overages were due to wages. James explained that between 4%-8% cost of living adjustment has been given to employees.

James and Linda have revised the budget for the remainder of the fiscal year and submitted that to the city for approval. It will be brought up at the next city council meeting. The revised budget will mostly slow down new acquisitions/collections. Without forcing the library to reduce hours or layoff employees.

It was also mentioned that the library has been awarded two grants which will amount to about \$18,000. Because of Linda and James' revisions and the grants no extra money will be asked for from the city.

Directors Report:

Regency Ball name has been updated to include Jane Austen as many were unfamiliar with what a regency ball was. Heidi the library event coordinator would like to hold the ball next year if possible. James told the group that in order for the event to be viable they needed to sell 20 tickets; he would prefer closer to 30 tickets. As of today, they have sold exactly 20. Ads have been placed in the Statesman (USU's campus paper), The Deseret News and the Herald Journal. They are also running a social media campaign and a radio campaign. The board was able to listen to the radio spot and it was very charming.

Liz brought up that the largest regency ball in Utah is held in SLC two weeks after the library event is taking place and costs less money. Which may be a contributing factor as to why more people from outside of the valley have bought tickets. It mentioned that if the library is to host the event again, price, perhaps offering a dessert and dancing option without the dinner, and time of year may need to be adjusted to encourage better attendance and not compete with the other regency ball.

James said the price was decided on with Julianne Donaldson because that is typical of what she charges for event. Liz mentioned that an author guest speaker was not a draw for her. Jenny pointed out that it was a big draw for her as she is a big fan of Julianne Donaldson.

Linda L'Ai mentioned giving students a discount and being aware of when other fundraising efforts happen may help to get better attendance. Emily Schmidt also mentioned that with the popularity of the TV show Bridgerton we may be able to get more college students in the future if advertised with that in mind.

James said they're really pushing to get at least another 10 tickets sold. And will decide on Jan. 18th (the last day to purchase tickets) if it will happen or not.

The Regency Tea has sold over double the number of tickets that the Regency ball has and will for sure be taking place.

It was noted for the prospective members that typically during the directors report we discuss library policy and things like book challenges (i.e. when a patron wants a book removed from the library).

Liz moved to adjourn; Charlotte seconded.