Board of Trustees meeting on June 20, 2023

Present: Kris Ely, Stephen Spero, Jim O’Pecko, Eileen Baessler, Ann Reed, Dawn Augenti, Kathy Matis, Vicky Calby, Craig Benson, Angie Zick, Joann Reimel, Angie Hall, Chris Caterson, Fred Cicilioni, Cathy Harter, Brian Lione

Absent: Jason Miller, George Conner

Call to Order: Steve Spero called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and welcomed guests to the meeting. This meeting was held at the Montrose Library.

Howard Burkett gave a presentation on how to find unclaimed monies from the government. This presentation will be made available to the public.

Local author Joann Higgins will be at the Montrose Library on June 21st.

The guests at the meeting where there to present their views on a display in the adult section of the library that was devoted to pride month. There were both dissenting and supporting guests. Public comment from the attendees was limited to two minutes. After the initial discussion, Kris Ely presented the library’s stand on the display in question.

A motion was made to approve the May 2023 minutes. The motion was passed.

A motion was made to approve the written reports. The motion was passed.

The library’s accountant is not providing adequate service. There appears to be more cash on hand this year at this point than last year at this time. Kris is looking at using a new accountant to streamline payroll and help with Quick Books. Kris is hoping that each of the quotes comes in at less than $3K.

Last year’s heating bill increased dramatically.

Bonnie discussed the CAP Program and the need to hire assessors for both the building and one for conservation. The building appears to be in good shape. Data loggers will be in use to record daily temperature and moisture. The collection is in good shape, buts needs work. There is a problem with moths in one room. Mr. Bear also has moths. Both the Blackman room and Mr. Bear have been sealed. High level pheromone traps have been placed to monitor moth population. It will cost money to correct this issue, which will include purchasing a freezer. Cloth items will need to be frozen upon receipt to avoid insect infestation. Other items may be included in this process as well.

Can “Save the Bear” be used as a fund-raising effort?

A capital plan should be enacted to review what items need to be replaced/updated in the future, this should be included in the five-year plan.

The front steps of the Historical Society Building need to be repaired/replaced.

Promote lottery by setting up information stands at various county happenings. A fund-raising meeting needs to be scheduled soon.

The ice cream and buckle stand volunteers have declined to volunteer again this year. We are looking for new people to work at this stand. Blueberries are in jeopardy because of the late frost this year.

Forest City update: a painter was found willing to do the lead encapsulation project, but they are not certified. A local contractor is willing to hire this group as a sub-contractor and then certify their work.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

The next meeting is at the Historical Society on July 17th. at 4:00 PM.



James A. O’Pecko - Recording Secretary