

Call to Order

President Robin Smiley called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. at the Lewiston Branch of the Montmorency County Public Library.

Board Members Present (in alphabetical order): Mary Burek, Ellen Klein, Robin Smiley and Diane Torkarski

Board Members Absent (in alphabetical order): Pat West

County Commissioner: none

Staff Members Present: Lori Haas —Director,

Others present: none

Approval of Agenda

Diane Torkarski made the motion to approve the agenda as written, Ellen Klein seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Bills

Mary Burek made the motion to accept the bills as presented, Robin Smiley seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes to Meeting

Mary Burek made the motion to accept the August 10, 2020 as written Diane Torkarski seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Ellen Klein made the motion to accept the closed meeting minutes as written, Mary Burek seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment

none

Old Business

The Director has a call into the health department asking to verify how many people may be in the Libraries at once, She suggested we get ready to open the Libraries meeting rooms to allow the homeschooled children to hook up their chromebooks to the internet so they may get their assignments completed. Masks will be mandatory. Temperatures will be taken. Children 12 and under will be accompanied by an adult. The meeting rooms will only be open to Library use, no night time meetings etc. It is time to allow patrons to pickup their books inside the Library with delivery available to their cars to anyone who still isn't ready to come in the door. The weather is starting to change, fall is coming, too cold to sit out in the weather or stand on the porch. The computer use will stay the same.

The Librarians are all ready to become notaries, just waiting for the return of paperwork.

New Business

none

Directors Report

The Director presented the returns from the millage by township. (see attachment)
Halloween will be different this year as is everything else. There will be no "party" with the books and candy giveaway moved to the parking lots of each branch. No food will be available this year either.

The building in Atlanta was power washed and looks refreshed. The tree alongside the Library there will also be removed before it does damage to the building.

The Director has 9 different take home science projects that will teach the kids and they will have fun at the same time. These will be spread out over several weeks. There are also 2 adult craft projects coming along in the future, also take home.

The Librarians reports:

Sheila from Atlanta reports:

Hello! August has been a busy month here in Atlanta. I'm pleased to report that the number of people coming into our building is definitely increasing. We had 116 people sign in during August. Our overall response has been very positive and we have had several comments that our efforts are making patrons feel safe and confident in coming. Our circulation numbers are holding steady at 519, but computer users are rising.

One of our big pushes this month has been to get our "Library Learning Center" ready for the school year. We currently have 115 titles to help parents and students with a variety of grade/age appropriate materials. I'm working on a spreadsheet that will break materials down by grade and subject matter so that we will be able to provide a list to parents. This is one area that I think we can really help out with as families deal with potentially having to switch back and forth from in-person to on-line learning.

In our effort to encourage circulation, we have cataloged 82 new books and movies in August. Baker and Taylor Lease Books are now coming in on a regular schedule. Our donations have also increased. Many people bought books while we were closed and are now generously giving them to us.

We are seeing an increase in people who just need some human contact. The isolation has been wearing on our older patrons in particular. I have been encouraging everyone here to spend that extra few minutes with someone whenever possible.

I'd like to thank Mary Burek for coming in and helping us package all the science and art projects that will be going out to both kids and adults in the coming months. We really appreciate the extra hands!

Until next month.

Tina from Hillman reports: I am happy to share that our son has accepted a position as an analytical chemist in Madison, WI. I took 3 days off at the end of the month to move him. Things have been quiet & steady here in Hillman. We are not seeing a lot of traffic in the library, but our circulation is staying consistent. Our patrons are becoming more familiar with our online system and many call for us to order books for them. I have had a few parents ask about the availability of the library once school starts & have explained our procedures to them. Along with our daily tasks & routines, we have been working on replacing labels in all sections of the library. It's very quiet in the building with only two of us here one day a week.

Our water has been very bad since reopening. The village came down & flushed the hydrant and we ran our water for 2 hrs to see if it would clear up. The community is staying positive & several patrons have commented that they are looking forward to the upcoming activities that we will be offering. Stay well!!!

Wendy from Lewiston reports:

We have been busy here in Lewiston. We are still going strong with curb side pick and walk ups to the door for faxing and copy needs and any other information they might need. The computers appointments are going well, We have had 12 people sign up and or come to the door. We are still working on changing labels and making sure everything matches in workflows and weed our collection at the same time. Tom came in and updated all Patron Computers and they are working great. Roxanne is coming along just fine and is currently working on Fall Fest craft that The Friends of the Lewiston Library had given a donation for. I did however get our dollar amount of the FOLL book sale, 1,285 is what they took in for the three days. Hope everyone has a great week. Stay healthy.

Next Meeting Scheduled

The next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2020 at Lewiston Branch, 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Diane Torkarski made motion to adjourn, 1:53pm. Robin Smiley seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Smiley

Accepted November 9, 2020