

January 8, 2015

Present: Margaret Haraghey, Anne Christie, Sonja Larson, Janice Trecker, Beth Regan, Luciann Norton, Lee Astin. Susan Hochstetter, Chair and Deb Andstrom, Librarian.

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved with the addition of the techie's name, Brian Hathaway. The minutes of the special budget meeting were approved as submitted.

Luciann gave the treasurer's report, presenting our expenses for December and also the budget for 2015. The budget was approved with the addition of a modest amount for advertising (for the new website) and with the restoration of the usual funds for DVD purchase. There will also be a correction to account for the slightly lower check this year from the state.

Luciann had questions about the Robertson Fund and whether one must physically go to the bank to make withdrawals. Sonja said she would look out the paperwork.

Deb presented the librarian's report. In December, we had 157 adult patrons, and 16 children. The children were mostly with the kindergarten class. 129 books checked out last month. We loaned 148 books via ILL. 66 DVD's and 7 audio books were checked out. We had three new library cards.

In other library news, on December 11, (10:30-11:30) the kindergarten teacher brought approximately 10 students for a library visit.

Upcoming events include Deb's visit to the Senior Luncheon Jan 14 to talk about the library. She is hoping to plan some events for the Saturday, Feb 7, Take Your Child to the Library Day. As that is near Dr. Seuss's birthday, she hopes to do a story hour for younger children. Beth, who does Native American storytelling, offered to do a program. She and Deb will work out a plan and let Janice know in time for her to write something up for the Gazette.

The Knitting Group has started and Deb would like to start a Baby Story Time. Luciann suggested this be advertised at EastConn as well as the Gazette. Anne suggested that program information be sent to area towns as well.

Judy Moulton, a children's book author from Scotland, would like to do a book author program at the library. Deb will try to arrange this.

In other library business, she sent a get well card to Ruth Grant.

Tom Newman of the state library has informed us that our check this year will be \$1158.

There was some discussion about the growing popularity of DVD's— the reason that this item has been raised in the upcoming budget after being reduced this past year. Margaret noted the popularity of TV series. Sonja said that sadly these are expensive. Luciann recommended we

check out the Baltic rummage sale at St. Joseph's School July. This is a good source of cheap DVD's.

Margaret reported on the price of web hosting at Fat Cow. Although not entirely satisfactory according to Margaret's source, they are cheap and run the Gazette site, and the board voted to give them a one year trial. Anne will consult with Janice and get an account with them. Then Liz will need to edit the present library page on the town site. Janice suggested an edit that can be submitted to Liz. She would like the minutes to remain archived on the town, not the library, site.

Sue reported on the surveys. The good news is they are very positive. The not so good news is that basically we are talking to our friends. However, the survey forms will remain on the desk and we may get some suggestions. Staff, librarian, collection, ILL, DVD's all came in for praise.

Sue then asked for suggestions regarding the five year plan. Given the hour, it was decided to postpone real discussion until next meeting, when the members were asked to bring in suggestions. Anne discussed the porch which really needs to be stabilized soonest and repaired with new pilings in the spring. She suggested John McCormick, who did her porch. Margaret suggested Lennie at Hampton Remodeling, but apparently they are both with the same firm. Two other bids are therefore needed.

Other maintenance issues to be considered include: painting two more sides of the building, painting the garage, possibly repairing or replacing the garage roof, sanding and painting the porch floor, resetting the porch steps and obtaining our sign.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23pm.

The next meeting is February 6 at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Trecker