

April 8, 2025
SOMONAUK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

April 8, 2025

The regular meeting was called to order by President Roberta Mickelson @ 4:05 P.M.

In attendance were: Marilyn Abbott, Chris Gresk, Tom Harmon, Paula Moore, Gina Skofich, Cindy Westbrook and Library Director Julie Harte Fischer

No members of the public were present.

Changes to draft minutes from March 11, 2025 meeting were requested and agreed to. Motion to accept the updated Minutes from March 11, 2025 meeting was made by Moore, seconded by Skofich and passed unanimously. Final minutes will be posted on library website by Harte Fischer.

Correspondence:

No Correspondence was received this month.

Treasurer Update:

Budget update and bills paid were provided by Treasurer Skofich. Expenditures for the month were in line with projections. Abbott motioned for bills to be paid as presented, seconded by Harmon and approved unanimously.

Skofich informed the Board that the building bond has been paid off with the February 2025 payment and appropriate documentation received from lender. Tax Levy request will be adjusted in December 2025 to reflect this.

Treasurer Skofich explained to the Board how tax receipts from DeKalb and LaSalle Counties need to be accounted for in the year they were due, and late payments can make the receipts and YTD calculations look confusing,

Harte-Fischer has arranged for a presentation/update from PMA to be given at the June Board meeting.

Librarian's Report:

Receipts/Updates:

March circulation rose to 6308 items

38 New patrons (including 2 out of district)

Fines/Book Replacement: \$24.00 (lost book)

Donations: \$10.60

Fax/Copy Revenue: \$145.45

Non-District Fees: \$352.00

Total: \$532.05

Programs:

April 8, 2025: Lincoln Presentation by Kevin Wood

April 9, 2025: Duffy Hudson will lead a Murder Mystery night

April 15, 2025: Jeanie Martin will interview local author Amy Kemp

April 22, 2025: Steve Goodwin will present on Cybersecurity Basics

Friend of Library:

Used book and bake sale on Thursday April 3rd, Friday April 4th and Saturday April 5th raised \$2,300

Library Building:

Harte-Fischer presented bids for landscaping services. Bids/responses were received from 4 local vendors, with Turf's Up and Freedom Services being the lowest 2. Estimates were for Spring Clean Up, 90-110 yards of mulch and snow removal services. Freedom was the low bid for the mulch (\$6,400), \$600 for Clean Up and the only vendor who would do snow removal on "per push" basis at \$350 each. Harmon proposed contracting with Freedom Services, Abbott seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

New Sign Update: An updated estimate of \$36,991 has been submitted for the sign installation, with updated electrical estimate due by April 11, 2025. Sign Company is still working on the final details for the submission of the updated permit request to Village.

Library Policy Updating: Harte-Fischer distributed copies of the revised Personnel Handbook and Policy & Procedure Manual. Board will review with final approval scheduled for June 2025 Board meeting. Harte-Fischer is working on list of Policies & Procedures to post on Website, while entire Manual will be available for patron's review at the front desk once they are finalized.

Siding Repair: Will be scheduled when weather cooperates. Harte-Fischer indicated work will include fixing the drainage issue which has led to problem.

New Business:

Board discussed how "Programming Issues" were raised during the election campaign. Feedback received to date by Board members and Library Staff does not indicate there is a problem, but the Board requested Harte-Fischer conduct a full review of programming needs and consider possible realignment of resources to meet changing or perceived needs.

2025 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Somonauk Public Library. Board will work on celebrating the anniversary in the October/November timeframe, in conjunction with this year's Author Fair.

Executive Session: No items for discussion

Meeting Adjourned 5:50 P.M.

Submitted by Christopher Gresk, Board Secretary