

Heartland Regional Library System
Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Roll Call: The Heartland Regional Library Board met at the Vienna Library for the March meeting. President Carole Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:00. Board members present were Carole Wagner, Denise Tyler, Rachel Williams, Heather Walker, April Noblett, Nora Bond and Lerilee Huhman. Brittany Davenport attended via Zoom. Ralf Trusty and Stacey Dunham were absent. Staff members present were Director Lisa Garro, Lysha Thompson, and Jenny Dillon.

Approval of Minutes: After a brief discussion, Nora made the motion to approve the minutes and Denise seconded. All approved.

Financial Reports: Following a brief discussion, the financial reports were approved after a motion was made by April and second by Rachel.

Approval of monthly expenditures and transfer of funds: Rachel made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures and transfer of funds, and Lerilee seconded. The motion passed.

Director's/Librarians' Reports: The director, assistant director, and programming librarian reported on the following:

The Director's report:

- Executive Order directed at cutting funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This could affect grants that Heartland applies for (i.e. Chromebooks) and ultimately could affect the plan to offer Excel High School.
- MO House Bill 557 – proposal to make library board trustees an elected position. Huge cost and political ramifications are possible.
- MO Senate Bill 159 – proposal concerns a process for the reconsideration of library materials by residents living and paying taxes in the library district.
- MO Secretary of State has suspended state funding to Overdrive following allegations regarding inappropriate materials accessible to minors. Focus is on SORA and school libraries.
- Whistleblower Protection Act information was provided to all staff.
- MO Evergreen Conference – 7 attending from HRLS
- HRLS Staff Meeting covered several topics.

Copies of the bills/statutes and related information were provided by the Director. See the Director's March Report for further details on the above notes.

The Assistant Director's report:

- Chromebooks arrived (being set up by Scott and Lysha) and procedures for use being shared with Belle staff.
- Adult Reading Challenge was a success with 89 (60 from Iberia) participants!
- North Star is being promoted on an as needed basis.
- April is an adult group read of *The Flower Sisters* and the author Michelle Collins Anderson will give an author talk on the writing process in Eldon and Vienna.

- May programming for adults will be reading prize bingo.
- Summer programming is being prepared and training for staff will be the end of April.

Maries Co Program Librarian:

- Mark Twain Battle of the Books for grades 4-6 went well. St. Elizabeth won the traveling trophy.
- Gateway Battle of the Books is coming up next week.
- Upcoming programs (Mermaid Storytime and others) were shared.

Communications: none

Old Business: It was reported that there is still a wait on the van.

New Business: none

Committee Reports: Carole will reach out by email and ask for a volunteer for the Evaluation committee.

HRLS Policies: A policy on Cybersecurity was presented by Lisa. This policy will be reviewed by the board and will be voted on next month. A Grievance Policy with procedures and a Sunshine Policy are forthcoming.

Executive Session: none

Adjournment: April made the motion to adjourn at 7:02 and Nora seconded to adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted, Lerilee Huhman, HRLS secretary