

**Heartland Regional Library System  
Board Meeting  
March 21, 2023**

**Roll Call:** Board members present at the meeting held at the Vienna Library were Nora Bond, Lerilee Huhman, Anne Graves, Mary Liebler, Laura Schiermeier, Eleanor Terry, Carole Wagner, April Noblett and Ralf Trusty. Also present was potential Maries County board member Denise Tyler of Belle. Staff present were Director Lisa Garro, Children's Librarian Dawn Payne, Adult Program Coordinator Chrissi Germann, attending via zoom was Youth Librarian Kacie James.

**Public Comments:** There were none.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the February 21, 2023 HRLS board meeting were approved on a motion by Eleanor and a second by Nora.

**Financial Reports:** The financial reports were approved on a motion by Laura and a second by Carole.

**Approval of Monthly Expenditures and Transfer of Funds:** These were approved on a motion by Laura and a second by April.

**Director and Librarians' Reports:**

Kacie reported on the many tween and teen activities that were held in or will be held in March at the four library locations. They are engaging youth with these programs and they are coming to the libraries to be part of it.

Chrissi's position with Heartland is new and she has been working to get adult programs started. A Chair Yoga Class at the Vienna Senior Center was very well received and she may begin having this more often. The mobile library at senior sites is a success. There is interest in the Crafternoons programs. She's working on other programming, too.

Dawn showed a wooden bird house as Lowes at the Lake of Ozarks donated 15 to the library for children's programming. She also showed items in the kit for Behind the Little Red Door which was designed to improve Social Emotional Learning (SEL). Dawn said the pandemic was hard on kids who were isolated from other children and they needed to learn how to express themselves. The kits uses books, music, magnetic animals, games, and cards. She will get the kits to head start and daycare facilities and introduce the providers on the use of them. Spring programming has begun.

Lisa sent board members a link to the Trustee Academy. She reported the furnace at the Iberia Library quit and they are using space heaters. Bids will be required but initial estimates for replacement range from \$5,412 to \$10,492. She will apply for a DNR energy efficient furnace grant. The trash service provider at the Belle Library is discontinuing service. April gave Lisa a name of a provider that also serves the Belle area. Also, Legends Bank which owns the space of the Belle Library is raising the monthly rent from \$650 to \$900 beginning July 1, 2023, plus we will now pay for water and sewer, too. Lisa has been working on employee evaluations. She updated the board members on bills moving through the Missouri

Legislature to prohibit the state librarian from disbursing funds to libraries that offer obscene materials to children. We are very much against these bills and see them as political interference. We were asked to contact our representatives expressing disapproval of these bills. Lisa and the librarians have plans to attend several conferences and trainings in March, April and May. Lisa was pleased to report the formation of the Heartland Regional Library Foundation. There is still more work to be done but it will allow Heartland to take donations and apply for grants. Board members are Lisa, Lerilee and Brian Struebig. Lisa created a five-year strategic plan for the library system. The plan focuses on future growth. A problem is the libraries are running out of room to expand further. We need more space and better buildings. Lisa prepared a response to what was discussed at the Feb. 28 Eldon City Council meeting regarding the Eldon Library. She gave facts about our revenue, tax rates and much more that the city council members were not aware of and needed to be informed about.

**Unfinished Business:** The members earlier in the meeting heard about the Strategic Plan update. Director evaluation forms were sent and will be discussed at the April meeting.

**New Business:** There was none.

**District Library Board Report:** There was none.

**Committee Reports:** The Eldon Library relocation committee did not meet as until there is funding to do this the committee can't move forward. Mary said the Eldon Chamber of Commerce hosts a monthly morning coffee event and she would like for the Eldon Library to host one of them.

**Executive Session:** There was none.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ralf and a second by Mary.