**Franklin Public Library**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**June 28, 2023**

**Present**: Charleen Belcher, Kathleen Gerwatowski, Amanda Rabbitt, Barbara Steele, Alison Wallace of the Board, and Library Director Felicia Oti.

**Call to Order**: Charleen called the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Public Comment**: None

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

**Report of the Board Members:**

**Kathleen:** Kathleen asked if the library was considering a program on AI/ChatGPT for the community. Felicia suggested that Mitzi add this to her media literacy program.

Kathleen also shared information about a new online platform called Hiveclass to which public libraries are subscribing. Hiveclass offers teens and children access to a mobile-friendly streaming database of athlete-led instructional videos on sports, dance, yoga, and more. Felicia will investigate Hiveclass to see if it’s a good fit for Franklin.

**Facilities Use Policy:** The proposed draft of the Facilities Use Policy was revised again. Changes were incorporated into the existing document. The Board approved the revised the draft.

**Public Comment Policy:** The Board reviewed the public comment policies of other libraries and the Franklin Town Council to craft a revised policy for the Franklin Public Library. Felicia will draft the policy discussed at the meeting and send it to the Board for review.

**Library Director’s report:** At a previous board meeting, a new website called Craft & Hobby was discussed. Vicki compared it to what’s available on Hoopla. There are about 150 craft & hobby classes available on Hoopla. In September the staff will begin promoting the craft options available on Hoopla.

The library staff will reach out to Project Linus to determine if they wish to run a “Make a Blanket Day” at the Franklin Public Library.

Vicki located a souvenir booklet given to visitors who attended the grand opening of the Ray Memorial Library on October 4, 1904. She updated and reformatted the booklet and printed a copy in color. The library will use Print Smart, a local business, to reproduce multiple copies for library patrons.

A Circulation Supervisor position was approved in the FY24 library budget. The position of Library Assistant was recently vacated due to a retirement. Felicia will begin the selection process for these positions. In the fall she will begin a search for Assistant Director.

The Summer Reading Program event was very successful. It was a rainy day which drove attendance. Jamie Barrett performed for three hours and was fantastic. 560 children and teens have signed up for the summer reading program. Mitzi has also rolled out adult summer reading. So far 67 adults have signed up.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on September 25, 2023.

**Agenda for next month:** At the next meeting we will vote on the public comment policy, receive an update on the Dean Library partnership, summer reading wrap up, library staffing, and fall programming highlights.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gerwatowski