

Cherokee Public Library

Library Board Meeting

January 8, 2025

Board meeting was called to order with the following members present: Jomi Anderson, Deb Hankens, Lisa Perrin, Linda Burkhart, Loretta Barrett, Tyler Puettmann, Doc Roethler, and Jonathan Riggert. Guests were Missi and Hope from the library staff around 9AM

Board consensus approved the minutes from the December meeting Lisa/Linda. A motion was made by Deb/Jonathan and passed to approve the bills in the amount of \$3,588.46. The monthly budget review was passed around by trustees.

Correspondence this month included holiday cards, donation letters, and an email from a former Cherokee resident.

In education Tyler H shared a study from the National Center for Education Statistics regarding literacy rates dropping. Board members discussed reasons why they think this trend is happening as well as brainstormed ways the library could help address this within the context of our community.

In new business the board approved purchasing a mailbox for the door outside of the Cherokee Area Archives, as the staff are currently handling then Archives mail Linda/Loretta. The budget committee discussed the city budget being lower and consequently the lower library budget with statistics and figures. Formal approval will come after the council approves the budget. The volunteer policy was updated with a line which says "Volunteers are meant to supplement and not replace the services and resources of professionally trained and credentialed staff." Linda/Deb. Finally the library's programming and outreach strategy was discussed. Staff are going to have a survey out to the community for toddler aged programming at the library.

For librarian reports, Tyler reported statistics and also questioned board members about other methods of sharing stories within the library. It was suggested maybe monthly bringing in another staff member or sharing a story of outreach or impact of the library alongside the statistics shared.

A motion was made and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 5.