**Fruitport District Library Board of Directors**

**Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Rose Dillon at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Rose Dillon, Ruth Woodward, Junella Rule, Glenn Bo, Bill Overkamp and Anna Dudas. Trustee Nan Riekse was excused.

Also in attendance were Matt Lubbers-Moore, Pat Gallagher, Donna Esch, Kathleen Johnston, Nan Emmer and members of the press.

The agenda was unanimously accepted as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**  None

**REPORTS**

Secretary’s Report: Motion by Bo, supported by Dudas to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Library Report: The Director provided highlights of the written report that board members received prior to this meeting. There were 364 participants in the spring break activities at the library. We also ran out of Eclipse Glasses and made every attempt to direct individuals to other possible sources.

Director Matt Lubbers-Moore reported that he continues to work with Nick Heimler to create a new domain for the library’s website. I appears that the old site was bought out by Russians and we are unable to get it operational.

Treasurer’s Report: A review of financial information was presented by Trustee Dillon.

A motion was made by Trustee Woodward, supported by Trustee Rule to approve payment of bills totaling $4,498.77. Passed unanimously by rollcall vote.

Building Report: Trustee Dillon reported that flowers have not yet been planted. However, there are two flower pots on either side of the front entrance. The bush on the corner has been trimmed.

Trustee Dillon reported that E.W. Anderson came to work on the boiler after the state inspection noted needed repairs/changes. Trustee Dillon will send the board members a copy of the completed report and the bill that will follow. Of primary concern was that the area was also being used for some storage. The state inspector said it may be necessary to lock the door to the boiler.

**OLD BUSINESS**

New library locations: Trustee Dudas reported on her conversation with the realtor regarding the church building at the corner of Harvey and Pontaluna which is owned by Trinity Health. The owners are not willing to provide any type of wetlands study. He suggested that we make an offer contingent on results of a study which we would have to pay for. It was also pointed out that several developers have walked the property and determined that it was too wet for development, thus negating any chance we would have to sell any of the property that we do not need. The asking price remains $1.2 million.

Matt presented a full report of the survey results regarding a new library. There were 400 respondents with roughly half favoring keeping the library at its current location. Copies of the full report are available at the library.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding how we should move forward at this time. The Village would like a more detailed idea of our needs/expectatons before they will commit to any decision on the current property.

The board chair allowed public comment at this time to assist in our decision making. After much input from Community members Kathleen Johnston, Donna Esch, Patricia Gallagher, Nan Emmer and board members, it was decided that the director would present the list of needs and wants to several architects (including the two we have already spoken to and possibly two more who have previously designed libraries) and ask for a rough plan from each. We are looking for simplicity and cost effectiveness. After receiving plans from each we will determine if they are suitable or able to be built at the current location or if we must continue our search. We believe this will demonstrate to the community a good-faith effort to move forward, while remaining realistic in our plans. The board and the director are adamant that this not involve the need to raise taxes!

**NEW BUSINESS**

Consumers Credit Union CD: Trustee Dillon completed this purchase and passed a copy of the new CD for the board to look at.

Old Fashioned Days: A request was received from the Lions Club to use our water hook-up during Old Fashioned Days. Motion by Woodward, supported by Dudas to allow. Motion passed unanimously.

A request was received from the VFW to sell their poppies on the library grounds. Motion by Woodward, supported by Dudas to allow. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no further comments.

Motion by Overkamp, supported by Rule to adjourn at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Woodward