

ASHVILLE FREE LIBRARY

November 28, 2023

Those in attendance included: President Don Butler, Financial Officer Pete Radka, Vice President Michelle Arnone, Pat Poignard, Roberta Schruise, Eugenie Poignard, Melissa First and Director Kristina Benson, Guest Jan Dekoff Executive Director of CCLS.

A motion was made by Roberta and seconded by Melissa to accept the Board Minutes of the October meeting. This passed unanimously.

The Financial Officer's report given by Pete:

CD: \$10,000.00
Checking: \$46,763.06
Savings: \$5,522.24
Money Received: \$0.00
Total Assets: \$55,156.10
Memorials and Grants: \$11,483.37
Overall Total: \$50,801.93

A motion to approve Pete's report was made by Melissa and seconded by Roberta. The motion passed unanimously.

The proposed Ashville Library budget for 2024 was discussed including the Magnuson Fund.

Director's report given by Kristina:

Overdues: \$8.05
Copier Fees: \$12.55
Computer Printing: \$39.20
Fax: \$0.00
Donations: \$28.30
Total: \$88.10

On December 1st and 2nd the library will hold a Christmas event in conjunction with the Ashville General Store. At the library on those two days, children will have the opportunity to write letters to Santa.

New Trustee Training and Sexual Harassment Training will again need to be completed in 2024.

The Bathroom Project will likely be starting in the next few weeks. There is a possibility that the library may need to be closed if no bathroom facilities are available.

Janice Dekoff CCLS Director discussed options for library sustainable funds. This included: 259 Vote whereby a proposition would be put on the School Board ballot. The school would collect the funds and distribute them to the library. We would receive this amount annually until we asked for an increase. It is recommended that a small increase be asked for each year. Money from the township would no longer be received. Historically, these votes have generally passed. Schools cannot turn down a library's request to put this on the ballot. Schools bear the cost of voting. A 414 Vote is a proposition that would be put on the ballot for North Harmony. The town would collect the monies and distribute them. This is quite a bit of work but manageable. Both options work well for small libraries. We would have to collect petitions in the community with a minimum of twenty-five signatures. These could not be collected at the library itself. If we were to continue in this direction, we would proceed with a 2025 start which would allow us to collect monies in this manner in 2026.

The next Board meeting will be January 23, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugenie Poignard (in the absence of Secretary Mary Jo Eddy)