

APPROVED
Grand County Public Library
Minutes for the Regular Board of Directors Meeting
September 9, 2021 5:00 pm
Held Virtually on Zoom, Grand County, Utah

In attendance for the September 9, 2021 Grand County Public Library Board meeting held virtually via Zoom, were as follows: Alanna Simmons-Cameron, Didar Charles, Jenna Woodbury, Trish Hedin, and Lillian Scott. Also present were Carrie Valdes, Library Director; and Meghan Flynn, Assistant Director (minutes). Jeremy Lynch and Rose List were absent.

Jenna called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Approval of the minutes for the May 13, 2021 meeting was discussed. Jenna made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Alanna seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Review of Bills. Board members are invited to continue reviewing bills when they visit the library in person.

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

Carrie began her verbal Director's Report. Several outdoor in-person events are planned for the fall including film screenings, a pop-up concert, and book bike appearances. The library has successfully pursued multiple grants over the summer. Grant funding will help support hotspot data plans, equipment for an outdoor movie theatre, and wifi capable solar charging benches. Library staff are currently writing a new grant to request funding for a makerspace. Discussion followed.

Carrie concluded the Director's Report and noted that the library is still short staffed. Multiple factors have caused the staffing shortage including non-competitive wages, one person on FMLA leave, lack of physical space for covid-distanced work areas, and frequent staff absences due to possible covid symptoms or covid exposures. More discussion followed.

There was no Old Business.

There was no Consent Agenda.

The Board moved on to New Business. The first item on the agenda under New Business was Discussion and Recommendation of a 2022 Grand County Public Library Budget to the Grand County Budget Advisory Board. Carrie reviewed the budget worksheet that was provided in the agenda packet. She reminded the Board that in 2020: property tax revenue was higher than expected, the library received \$70,000 in federal CARES money, and salaries were underspent due to the pandemic. As a result, approximately \$200,000 was contributed to the library fund balance.

The 2021 budget was put in place assuming that it would be possible to return to providing library service at a pre-pandemic level. Unfortunately, the ongoing pandemic has kept library services at a reduced level and the budget will be underspent again this year. Carrie expressed concern that if the 2022 budget does not reflect a possible return to full service, the library will struggle to fulfill community expectations when it is finally possible to do so.

The worksheet proposes a 2022 budget very similar to the approved 2021 budget. As always, salaries and benefits are determined by the county. Amounts for those line items are unknown at this time. Discussion followed. According to Utah state law, tax dollars collected for the county library must be spent on the library. Carrie noted that a growing fund balance could allow a transfer of funds into a capital projects account, which could then be used to fix the library's roof. Roof repair is an important facility need that must be addressed in the next few years. More discussion followed. Jenna made a motion to recommend the proposed 2022 Grand County Public Library budget to the Grand County Budget Advisory Board as presented. Trish seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

There were no Board Member Reports.

The Board moved on to Future Agenda Items. Carrie reminded everyone that there is currently a vacant seat on the Board if they know anyone that may be interested in joining. She also shared that the president of the Friends of the Library is moving away from the area so the Friends are looking for a new volunteer to join their leadership.

The Board discussed holding a space for Lillian, the high school representative, to speak during Board Member Reports in future meetings.

A closed session was not needed. Jenna adjourned the meeting at 5:39 pm.