

January 10, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***Light Between the Oceans*** by M.L. Stedman
- Glenda is submitting our accreditation renewal with the State Library. Part of this is our Strategic Plan 2023-2028, which the Board reviewed and approved. LPL meets all 29 Tier I standards, all 12 of Tier II; all 6 of the Tier III, along with 33 of the optional 38 standards.
- County Librarians gave their annual report to the County Supervisors and requested a 5% increase.
- Deb & Glenda attended Iowa Libraries Online Conference(ILOC) January 26 for continuing education

February 14, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***The Book of Longings*** by Sue Kidd Monk
- Election of officers: President Pat Boughey; VP Doc Van Genderen; Secretary Connie Dallenbach
- Library Journal recognized Laurens Public Library as a Star Library of 2022, based on 2020 data submitted on our annual report to the State Library. Just 22 Libraries in Iowa and 258 Nationally are recognized as Star Libraries!
- The Board participated in Continuing Education about productive partnerships with existing entities.
- Public Library CD and Acreage II CDs are to be renewed for 3 months, so when they come due they can be combined with the larger Acreage CD for better interest potential.
- Library hosted a Valentine's Day Bar Crawl (cookie exchange)

March 2023

- Book Club is reading the nonfiction ***Following Atticus*** Tom Ryan
- No Board meeting, email consensus to pay the bills

April 11, 2023

- Book Club is reading All Iowa Reads 2023 selection ***How High We Go In The Dark*** by Sequoia Nagamatsu
- Library Director Glenda Mulder posted a Facebook April Fool's Day prank. "The ALA announced the end of the Dewey Decimal System. Libraries will now shelve all books by color. Laurens Public Library will be closed all next week to enact this change." Accompanying photo showed a bookshelf of books arranged in this manner. A lively discussion ensued, and followers were relieved that it was just a prank!
- April 19 Ed Epperly presented a program about his book, ***Fiend Incarnate: Villisca Axe Murders.***

- Poster & Brochure Policy, as well as the Sex Abuse Against Minors Policy was reviewed and approved unchanged.

May 9, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***A Gentleman in Moscow*** by Amor Towles
- We are again searching for a Children's Librarian
- Proposed budget for FY 24 was approved by the City as submitted.
- Board approved combining Acreage I, Acreage II and the Public Library CDs when they come due in June, for the best available interest rate.

June 13, 2023

- Book Club is reading All Iowa Reads Youth selection 2023 ***Firekeeper's Daughter*** by Angeline Boulley
- Darcy Maulsby program June 5 about her book ***The Lincoln Highway in Iowa.***
- ***Find Your Voice*** Kids Summer Reading started June 14 and will run through August 9 Wednesdays at 1 pm
- Alyssa Chadwick was hired as Children's Librarian.
- Glenda reported excellent staff reviews of the Assistant Director, Deb Hertz, and Circulation Librarian Laura Todd. The Board reviewed Director Glenda Mulder
- An 8% salary raise was approved for FY 24
- Confidentiality policy was reviewed and approved with no changes.
- End of year transfer to the Library Reserves Fund of \$11,000 due to the new way farm rent is collected brought that fund balance up to \$42,207.43. Capital Equipment Fund balance is \$18,103
- End of FY23 Budget Expenses \$143,316.63 Income \$143,755.93

July 11, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***It Ends With Us*** by Colleen Hoover
- Evelyn Pitluck Brin CD renewed for 9 months at 2.97% interest at Community State Bank.
- During the Summer Celebration the Library hosted a slide show of vintage photographs. Also hosted a local author's fair featuring Brenda DeHaan, Joan Enockson, Courtney Post, and Mike Triggs,
- The Library Foundation sponsored Art Classes with Theresa McKee. Featured were Paper Making & Painting on Yupo Paper
- Find Your Voice Kids Summer Reading will run through August 9 Wednesdays at 1 pm. Blank Park Zoo ambassador was here the 19<sup>th</sup>.

August 8, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***White Fragility*** by Robin J Diangelo
- Dorothy Long is sharing part of her Barbie Collection in our display case to coincide with the Barbie movie in theaters.

- Tessa Radcliff has started as our new Children's Librarian.
- We received a \$500 Amazon gift card from Iowa Total Care. With this we purchased the kids Pig the Pug series, STEM toys, and summer reading supplies.

September 12, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***The Hate You Give*** by Angela Thomas
- Bimonthly Evening Tot Times have begun the first Wednesday & third Monday monthly
- Copier lease options were reviewed by the Board, as our lease is up in January. The Board voted to go with Gordon Flesch out of Fort Dodge with a 5 year lease of \$113.54 per month.
- Because of our community's roots in industry, Glenda has written a grant proposal for a Smithsonian display "Spark! Places of Innovation"
- Bonnie McKewon from the State Library, teamed up with library Director Glenda Mulder to give a well-attended program during Banned Books Week.

October 10, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***Charlotte's Web*** by E.B. White
- Magician Larry Dunbar once again entertained children of all ages Halloween night
- Saturday, October 21 we had a program by the makers of the movie ***The Cross***, which was inspired by KKK activity in Laurens in the 1920's. The movie was shown at the Rialto in Pocahontas that evening.
- Board discussed Senate File 496 that is currently in the Iowa legislature. This bill concerns access to books and materials in schools. The Board voted not to sign an open letter against this as a board, but individual members may opt to sign it.
- Board reviewed and approved our Complaint Handling policy with minor changes.

November 14, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***Storied Life of AJ Fikry*** by Gabrelle Zeven
- Library Foundation Potato Bar Supper was November 9, followed by a program at the Library, ***Lucy!*** An original solo musical based on the life of Lucille Ball by Jillian Gabrielle
- No Board meeting, the Board members voted by e-mail to pay the bills and renew Miss Elsie CD for 9 months at 3.34% interest at Community State Bank.

December 12, 2023

- Book Club is reading ***Gift of Family*** by Mary Monroe. This is our 200<sup>th</sup> selection, since Book Club's inception January 29, 2007

- Our Library was chosen as one of only 9 stops during their 2024-2025 tour for ***Spark! Places of Innovation!*** Sponsored by the State Historical Society of Iowa and the Iowa Humanities Council. Tour dates to be determined.
- Kyle Wenell made a payment of \$6,879 in fulfillment of the flexible farm lease plan, in addition to the set rate of \$18,000
- Open Access check for \$3270.33 was received from the State Library for circulations outside our tax base.
- Board reviewed and passed a proposed budget for FY25.