

January 8, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***The Mothers*** by Brit Bennet – this was the All Iowa Reads selection for 2020
- We received \$461.53 from the City to reimburse Covid 19 expenses of sanitizers and plexiglass screens.
- A new “Magic Cupboard” to house craft supplies was purchased by the Library Foundation and installed in the south part of the Library.
- County Librarians will meet with the County Supervisors January 19 to tell of the adaptations this year, and ask for an increase in funding.
- Troy, Doc, and Jason have agreed to serve another 6 year term each.
- Board reviewed and approved a proposed budget for FY22
- Total circulations are increasing, but still about 10-15% lower than pre-Covid

February 9, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***Little Faith*** by Nickolas Butler, which is the All Iowa Reads choice for 2021
- We received a grant from the Pocahontas County Foundation to purchase a Tenor Tree to be installed in or Music Garden.
- Governor Reynolds issued a proclamation that masks are no longer mandatory in Iowa. The Library Board voted to continue the use of masks in the Library until staff has had the opportunity to be vaccinated.

March 9, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***This Tender Land*** by William Kent Krueger.
- Election of Officers: President Pat Boughey; Vice President Doc Van Genderen; Secretary Connie Dallenbach.
- County Supervisor Clarence Siepker informed us of funds available from the County Social Services for Covid Relief. We applied for funds for furnace filters, 12 new keyboards with mouse, masks, hand sanitizer, and a humidifier/dehumidifier air purification system for a total of \$13,000. Funds available first come, first serve so Clarence reports we were approved.

April 13, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***The Grapes of Wrath*** by John Steinbeck
- Doc Van Genderen has been busy constructing storage cupboards for behind the circulation desk. They were installed with the help of Les Milton recently. This was a Library Foundation project.
- Proposed FY 22 budget was approved as submitted to the City Council.
- Board moved to continue mask use in the Library.
- Board reviewed and approved with no changes the Mission Statement, as well as The Library Behavior Policy.

May 11, 2021

- Book Club is reading **Home Front** by Kristin Hannah.
- Library Director Glenda Mulder participated in a webinar panel discussion facilitated by the State Library of Iowa about the book, "Inspiring Library Stories" The many challenges of the past year and how our library dealt with them was a key area of discussion.
- Circulation Policy and Library Facilities Use Policy were reviewed and approved.

June 8, 2021

- Book Club is reading **The Rise of the Rocket Girls** by Nathalia Holt
- Laurens Plumbing has installed the air purification system, new fans in both bathrooms, and LED bulbs in the pendant lights in the center of the Library.
- 3 new patron computers were purchased and installed.
- New security cameras were installed.
- Summer Reading theme is **Reading Colors Your World**. Sessions will be all June & July Wednesdays at 1 pm
- Masks are no longer required at the Library
- Tenor Tree has been delivered and installed.
- Acreage CD will automatically renew for 12 months
- Darrin Crow presented **The Underground Railroad in Iowa** on June 16
- Staff assessments were discussed and the Board passed a 3% pay raise for Library personnel.
- Final budget FY21 Expenses \$147,110.21 Income \$147,257.30

July 13, 2021

- Book Club is reading **Lilac Girls** by Martha Hall Kelly
- We received an ARPA grant thru the State Library Covid relief funds, will pay for a smart TV & accessories.
- Scott Simpson will be getting us a bid for more insulation, since the workroom water pipe froze last winter.
- Tenor Tree dedication at summer celebration. This was purchased with a grant from the Pocahontas County Foundation.
- Laurens native Chris Hodges spoke the morning of the Summer Celebration about the historical fiction books he has written.
- **Reading Colors Your World** summer reading program for kids, was held every Wednesday in July

August 2021

- The Board approved hiring Scott Simpson to add 6" of insulation to our attic for \$4,886. Glenda will check on rebates available through Laurens Municipal Power and Communications.

- Book Club is reading ***Baseball Whisperer*** by Michael Tackett
- We met with Bethany Lutheran farm board to discuss farm rent. Using the formula based on the University of Iowa Farm Rent Survey, we voted to raise the rent to \$255 per acre. Kyle Wenell rents this land.

September 14, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***Before We Were Yours*** by Lisa Wingate
- Iowa Mountain Climber Jen Loeb presented a program
- Board reviewed and approved our Library By-Laws & Constitution.
- 2 patron computers were purchased, as well as 2 computers for the circulation desk. Direct State Aid was used for part of this purchase.
- We have initiated informal puzzle exchange shelves at the Library.
- Glenda has completed and submitted the Annual Survey to the State Library of Iowa

October 12, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***Brain on Fire; My month of madness*** by Susannah Calahan
- We are hosting weekly online story times for our child care providers through Zoom. Also monthly in person evening Tot Time.
- Foundation Fundraiser supper of pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, cheesy potatoes and pineapple upside-down cake was held October 21.
- Halloween magician Larry Dunbar once again entertained us indoors
- Farm rent was paid – the Wenell's had an extra good year, so added \$10 per acre to the check. \$9360.
- Board reviewed and approved the Selection and Collection Development Policy.

November 9, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***Midnight Library*** by Matt Haig
- The Board reviewed and approved the Personnel Policy as presented.
- Kyle Wenell requested approval to do some tiling on the farm, which he will pay for. Board was polled through e-mail and approved.

December 14, 2021

- Book Club is reading ***Christmas Cupcake Murders*** by Joanne Fluke
- Board approved one time pay increase of \$300 for full time employees; \$150 for part time employees.
- Reviewed and approved proposed budget for FY2023.
- Board reviewed ADA compliance for toilet rooms. It was found our handicap stall door should be 48" instead of the 36" that it is. No action was taken.
- Library will be closed December 24, 25, 31, and January 1