**Custer County Library Board**

**Minutes**

**October 27, 2021 Custer County Library**

*The Custer County Library Board of Trustees met at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27th at the Custer Library. Persons in attendance were Library Director Doris Ann Mertz and Trustees Marcy Swanda and Seyward Rittberger. Renée Starr participated by phone. Marcy chaired the meeting and called it to order at 1:05 p.m.*

**AGENDA CHANGES/CORRECTIONS**

**MINUTES**

* **September 15th Board Minutes***: Seyward made a motion to approve the September 15th minutes. Renée seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

**TREASURER REPORT**:

* **GENERAL CHECKING: $15,844.48 as of 09/30/21**
* **COUNTY SPREADSHEET: Balance $67,766.23 with 74.14% expended**

*Next month’s report should show the $15,000 ARPA grant supplement*

**LIBRARIAN REPORT:** *Trustees received a copy of the Librarian Report covering the topics below. The report is attached to and is part of this month’s minutes.*

* Foundation
* SD One Book Discussion
* Dutch Oven Cooking 101 – postponed due to weather
* Story-time
* Read for the Record

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS***:*

* **American Rescue Plan Act –** *The county has received the $15,000 check, and action was taken by the County Commission on October 13thto auto supplement the library’s budget. The Grant Final Report is due by June of 2022*
* **2022 Budget –** *The final budget was adopted on September 28th and included a $1.50 raise for county employees, raising our starting wage to $15/hour.*
* **Library Strategic Plan** – *The review of the first draft was tabled until the November meeting to allow participation by more trustees.*
* **SDLA Conference –** *Sessions are available until November 1st. A form to claim credit for sessions must be completed by that date as well. Marcy and Seyward told Doris Ann which sessions they have completed/will complete. She will complete the form for those sessions, so the board can receive continuing ed credit. The board needs to obtain an average of 15 hours of continuing education per year to maintain the Exemplary Accreditation.*
* **Trustee Openings for 2022** – *Doris Ann contacted Robin Bagley, who was interested in serving on the board last year. She now has new commitments and no longer has the time to devote to serving on the library board. Bert sent an email saying that Cheryl Dillon of Hermosa is interested in serving. Seyward had mentioned the opportunity to Cheryl a couple of times in the past. According to Bert (Hermosa Library Director), Cheryl is a former dispatcher for Custer County, and her husband is an attorney in Rapid City and a judge for Pine Ridge. She also said that Cheryl is “a really, nice intelligent lady and a voracious reader of just about anything.” Seyward will contact Cheryl and invite her to our December meeting/Christmas luncheon. Rose Mary Kor, Library Foundation President, was going to contact a Hermosa gentleman regarding the board opening. Doris Ann will follow up with her. If he is not interested, she will advertise for interest via Facebook. If no interest is forthcoming, we may need to place an ad in the Chronicle.*

**NEW BUSINESS***:*

* **Director Evaluation –** *Marcy has developed a template as a starting point for the Director Evaluation. She will get input from other trustees, and the board will provide the evaluation at the November meeting.*
* **Christmas Tree Entry –** *Doris Ann informed the board that the library’s entry in this year’s Custer State Park Festival of Trees will have a Harry Potter theme, complete with a “Hogwarts Express” train at the base.*
* **Mail Forwarding** – *Doris Ann suggested that the board may need to add a policy in their next revision/update to deal with full-time RVers who claim South Dakota as their domicile by using a mail forwarding service. There’s a mail forwarding service in Box Elder in Pennington County that has over 5,000 RVers who claim residence after spending just one night at the address. Spearfish now also has a mail forwarding service in their city. Amber Wilde, Spearfish Library Director, said that even if a library decides to give a membership to those using mail forwarding services, they are not eligible for OverDrive access. Our contract with OverDrive says that users must provide “proof of residency, ownership of property, employment, or enrollment in school…in the library’s service area.” Custer does not yet have its own mail forwarding service but has had Box Elder residents try to get a library membership. More mail forwarding services may open because South Dakota is the best state to claim as a domicile for tax and licensing purposes.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Read for the Record – October 28th (& 27th)
* Book Chat – October 28th at 4:30 p.m.
* Story-times on Friday at 10:00 a.m.
* Library Scan Day – November 4th (appointment needed)
* CLOSED for Veterans Day – November 11th
* CLOSED for Thanksgiving November 25th-27th

**NEXT MEETING:** *November 17th at 1 p.m.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** *The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.*

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Doris Ann Mertz

Secretary/Treasurer

**Librarian Report – October 2021**

**Foundation:** *The Foundation’s Open House on September 22nd has 106 attendees, and six people signed up for library cards. Four commissioners came over the morning of the Open House after the Commission meeting for a tour of the addition and to make a photo to be used in the Foundation’s Newsletter. Their last meeting was on October 21st, and their next meeting will be on December 2nd. In the meantime, they will be working with Kate and Doris Ann to finalize their newsletter. The newsletters will be folded and made ready for distribution at the meeting on December 2nd. Their Annual Meeting will be on January 27th at 1 p.m., and they do not have any vacancies to fill for the new year.*

**SD One Book Discussion**: *The library held a Book Discussion of the 2021 One Book Selection,* The Children’s Blizzard *by Melanie Benjamin on Sunday, September 26th at 3 p.m. SD Humanities Scholar Molly Barari led the discussion, and we had 10 participants. The books and the scholar were provided by a grant from the SD Humanities Council.*

**Dutch Oven Cooking 101:** *The class was postponed due to a snowstorm. If a favorable date that works with the weather and our schedules cannot be determined this fall, we will offer the class in the spring.*

**Storytime:** *Our numbers for story-time have picked up. Total numbers (kids and adults) for the last 3 story-times have been 30, 27, and 57. The YMCA Kidstop group joined us on the last story-time. They brought 26 kids. We had a 30-minute-warning and moved the crafts, coloring, and snacks portion of the program to the Pine Room. They are expected to attend our Halloween Storytime this Friday.*

**Read for the Record:** Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon *by Kat Zhang is this year’s selection for Read for the Record, which will be held on October 28th. On this date, people across the country read the same book on the same day and share the joy and connection of reading. Thea has arranged to visit the school to read the book to several classes.*