

**Carnegie-Stout Public Library
Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of the Carnegie-Stout Public Library (C-SPL) met in the Lacy Board Room at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 25, 2024.

Present: President Victor Lieberman, Vice President A. Alanda Gregory, Secretary Andrew Bland, Trustee Greg Gorton, Trustee Christy Monk (arrived 4:06 p.m.), Trustee Pam Mullin, Library Director Nick Rossman

1. President Lieberman called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

"Moved to adopt the meeting agenda of July 25, 2024."

Motion: Bland
Second: Gregory
Vote: Aye – 5; Nay – 0

2. Approval of Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2024."

"Moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2024."

Motion: Mullin
Second: Gorton
Vote: Aye – 5; Nay – 0

3. Board President's Report:

- A. The Board reviewed the Communication with the Dubuque City Council for June 2024.

"Moved to receive and file the Communication with the Dubuque City Council from June 2024."

Motion: Bland
Second: Gorton
Vote: Aye – 5; Nay – 0

4. Motion to Receive and File Informational Items:

- A. Library Director's Report Summary and Update:

- 1) Library Financial Report Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 – Rossman reported that the end of June completes the FY-24. The library has expended 96% of budgeted funds. A few expenditures will be reflected in the thirteenth month expenditures.

Revenue collected is more than budgeted for this FY at 106% of budgeted funds.

- 2) Library Use – Rossman reported circulation numbers for June, the last month of FY-24, were up 4% over June 2023. Total circulation numbers were at just over 479,000. Visitor count was up 20% over last FY with a total visitor count of over 212,000 for the fiscal year, and a 6% increase in computer and Wi-Fi usage.

Patrons used curbside for 74 visits in May.

Rossman reported there were 2,499 Hoopla downloads in June. Included for review was the last three months usage comparison chart that includes cost per collection for review. (Hoopla is a web and mobile library media-streaming platform for audio books, comics, e-books, movies, music, and TV.)

- 3) Library Marketing Report – Rossman reported in the month of June, the digital magazine service Flipster was promoted. June had 362 uses, compared to 166 in May and 220 in April, 2024.
- 4) Library Programs, Partnerships, and Grants Report - Rossman provided the following report:

The Art @ your library® show for August and September features photographer Gary Fagan, painter Matt Giese, and wood worker Rich Lammer. The show along with the opening reception for the artists is first Friday, August 2 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Library Director introduced the two new features purchased for patrons:

1. Author Talks is a variety of live virtual author talks that library patrons can register to attend. Patrons can also view past event recordings. Rossman referred to Adult Services Manager Amy Muchmore who provided a brief demonstration of Author Talks that library patrons now have access through the library's website.
2. Rossman provided a presentation on the new Carnegie-Stout Virtual Tour available on the library's website. The new feature for patrons provides directional information, library artworks, and services.

Included in your packet is information from Tacktics Galena, where our Staff Development Day is scheduled to take place on September 12. There is also a recent article in the Telegraph Herald that explains a little bit more of the process used for emotional intelligence and other professional development training. Our focuses for the day include team bonding, communication, and change management.

Following up from last month's meeting, Rossman reported that included in the packet for review are minutes from the acceptance from the Mutschler

Trust funds. From the May, 2011 Board of Trustees meeting, under the items for action, item A there are two votes:

1. Instructs to liquidate the donated bonds and convert them to cash.
2. Establishes a trust fund designated for the expansion of Library services.

Rossman reported both of these objectives were completed.

Grant Wood's "Appraisal" image use update – Further clarification from the Dubuque Museum of Art indicated that the Art Museum owns high-resolution images of "Appraisal" and that they will from time-to-time receive requests for an image. Part of the signed agreement between the Museum and the Library requires the Museum to get approval from the Board of Trustees before sending the image. This was a situation where request for the image had some merit, and passed the request to the Library Board of Trustees.

- 5) Martin Johnson Painting Auction Options - Rossman reviewed the brief history timeline of the library's Heade pieces and options for the Board to review.

Option 1: The Board of Trustees can decide to reclaim the "Roses" painting by Martin Johnson Heade and our current agreement with James Maroney would conclude. This option would return the painting the Carnegie-Stout Public Library and would allow the Board of Trustees to review future options for the piece.

Option 2: Send to an auction site. Mr. Maroney has shared he has maintained a long-term relationship with Brunk Auctions and would recommend that the nature of his relationship with the experts there, may come with added benefits. An initial estimate from Brunk have placed a possible auction price between \$60,000 and \$80,000. Mr. Maroney did indicate to expect to have a 20% deduction in commission, and that based on a predicted value from two other auction sites, that the range may also be on the high end. Mr. Maroney estimated \$40,000 to \$50,000 expected value.

- 6) Department Updates – Rossman provided highlights of the past month for Adult, Circulation, Information Technology and Youth Services.

B. Comment Cards – No comment cards were received for review.

"Moved to receive and file the informational update from the Library Director including the Library Operational Expenditures, Revenue and Budget Financial Reports; and, Library Use Report, Marketing Report, Library Programs, Partnerships, and Grants Report; and, Martin Johnson Heade Painting Auction Option, and Library Department Updates."

Motion: Mullin

Second: Gorton
Vote: Aye – 6; Nay – 0

5. Action Items (Action):

- A. Library Expenditures FY-24: Operating Expenditures June, Period 12 – The Board reviewed the detailed expenditures reports. Rossman reported the Gifts Trusts Expenditure Report is delayed from the City Finance Department.

“Moved to approve the library expenditures for FY-24 June, Period 12.”

Motion: Monk
Second: Gorton
Vote: Aye – 6; Nay – 0

- B. Martin Johnson Heade painting “Red “Roses” - The Board reviewed the options for the Martin Johnson Head painting. The Board discussed current unfavorable art market. It was decided it would be best to bring the painting back to the library for display, with options of finding an accredited museum to loan it to, and when the market is more favorable consider selling the artwork.


“Moved to return the ‘Red Roses’ painting by artist Martin Johnson Heade to the library.”

Motion: Mullin
Second: Monk
Vote: Aye – 6; Nay – 0

6. Library Board Adjournment – The Board adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

“Motion to adjourn.”

Motion: Monk
Second: Bland
Vote: Aye – 6; Nay – 0



Andrew Bland, MD, Board Secretary

8/22/24

Date