The Kennedy Free Library Board Report for May, 2023

Board President Cody Whitton opened the May 2, 2023 meeting at 5:39pm. Present were Board members Kevin Honey, Michelle Swanson, Shannon Barnhart, Sue Abbey, Librarian Dawn Swanson and guest Jan Dekoff.

Kathleen read the Minutes from the April 18, 2023 Board meeting. They were approved as corrected.

In his report, Treasurer Kevin quoted the interest rates on a 36-month Certificate of Deposit from several of the area banks.  Opening an interest-bearing CD would be preferable to leaving that money in the checking account. Other elements of Kevin's report showed that since January, 2023 Donations were at $1,156.00, Grants at $686.75, and Memorials at $860.00. Kevin's report was approved without exception.

Dawn next gave a listing of events that are planned for the near future:  The Story Fest, May 27th; the Memorial Day Parade, May 29th; the major fundraiser, the Chicken Bar-B-Que and Craft Show, July 30th. Myriad details must be addressed and resolved.  Board members and other Friends of the Library will be needed on deck for all events. Cody and Kathleen moved to accept Dawn's presentation.

As there were no Old Business items, Cody and Shannon moved to adopt the newly-written Computer and Internet Safety Policy.  That was approved by a unanimous vote.

Jan Dekoff, Chair of the Library System, spoke about the options available to the Library regarding future funding.  The 414 Plan, where the Library would continue to receive funding from the Town of Poland, requires 180 signatures of registered voters in the Town, plus submission of a detailed budget. (Jan recommended having an internal audit done beforehand. Michelle compared the library audit as akin to a local Teachers' Union audit; that is, audits are an effective check to ensure that expenses and income are properly accounted for.) Dawn added that canvassing for voter signatures must be well coordinated. When asked what was the source of the funding for the library, Cody answered: The Town's Tax Levy Fund. Memorials, Donations, and Grants would remain as surplus items, not as part of the amount requested from the Town coffers. At the meeting where the library budget is presented, Michelle and Jan will make the presentations; all Board members are urged to attend.

Cody reviewed that wording of the Tax Cap Override Resolution to permit the Board to exceed the 4% tax levy limit in the budget to be presented to the Town. More than sixty percent of the Kennedy Library Board of Trustees approved that Override Resolution, as required by law.

Cody and Sue moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen McGough Johnson, Secretary