Plains Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting February 25, 2025 @ 6:00

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm.

Present: Greg Sanders (Vice-Chair), Brandon Wilson, Nate Stropko, Sophie Fisher.

Excused Absence: Myra Lindborg (Chair)

Also Present: Nikki Ericksen (Library Director)

Public Comment: There was no public in attendance and no comment.

Previous Meeting's Minutes: Brandon moved to accept the previous meeting's minutes of January 28. Nate seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

The closed meeting's minutes from January 28 were reviewed. Nate moved to approve the minutes. Brandon seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Financial Reports: Financial reports were reviewed. Sophie moved to accept the financial reports as presented. Brandon seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Claims: Claim were reviewed by board members.

Public Comment: No comment

Meeting with Foundation: Nikki updated the board on the Plains Library Foundation Board meeting that she attended at the library on February 4thas follows:

The meeting held previous to this meeting had been held on October 18, 2019. Since that time, membership had been reduced to three members, John Thorson, Chris Cockrell (Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer), and Jane Bates.

At this meeting, they voted two new members onto their board, Linda Bursell and Judy Hawley. They said that they would reach out to two more interested parties and interview them. They said they would have another meeting in the near future to elect officers.

They also said that there would be a meeting with US bank that would be held at the library via Zoom call.

Patron Policy: Two changes to the patron policy were presented to the board. Patrons will no longer receive a telephone call when an item is overdue. This system was too labor-heavy during a time when staffing is short. The phone call is being replaced with automated texts and emails. Once items are more than two weeks overdue, patrons will receive a reminder letter that includes the cost of replacement should the item remain overdue for 90 days.

The other change was the addition of language prohibiting illegal activity on library premises.

Strategic Plan: The strategic planning process was discussed. Nikki said that she would like to include community input in the conversation. Topics like removing the pond and improvements to the building should be a community discussion. A date of May 17 was tentatively set for a community strategic

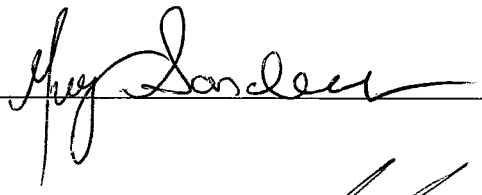
planning session. Nikki said that she would try to get a facilitator from the Montana State Library to come for the event.

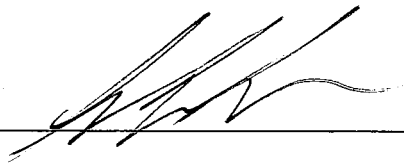
Teen Advisory Board: Nikki said that she recommended anyone who wanted to take on the program, to start with the public and homeschool communities to find interested kids. For her part, Nikki said that at this time there are no staff hours available anything more. She would be happy to keep it on the "someday" list. If a volunteer took it on, they could count on the support of herself and the staff.

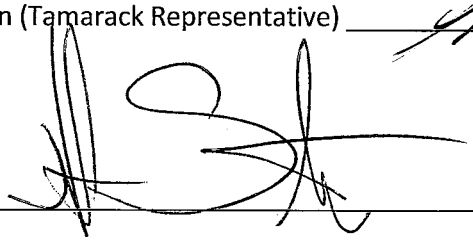
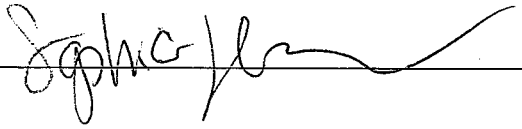
Public Comment: None

Next Board Meeting: The next board meeting was set for March 25 at the library.

Adjourned: 7:23 pm.

Greg Sanders (Vice-Chair) 

Brandon Wilson (Tamarack Representative) 

Nate Stropko 

Sophie Fisher