Library Advisory Board Meeting  
September 19, 2019  
Minutes

Members Present: Elaine Ebeling (Chair), Leigh Rupinski (secretary), Patti Walcott, Margaret Wheeler, Barb VanderVeen (Township Board representative), Kristen Borgman

Others Present: Lizzie Schab (Director), Dawn

I. Call to Order  
II. Approval of the agenda  
III. Approval of the previous meeting minutes  
IV. Director’s Report  
   a. Wifi Hotspot Grant  
      i. Ottawa County-wide library directors awarded approx. $81,000 grant (split between all libraries) from LSTA  
      ii. 10 Hotspots available at each library  
   b. 2019 Summer Reading Program  
      i. 1,560 sign-ups, 647 people finished  
      ii. 85 events  
   c. Big Read Lakeshore  
      i. Community Read for Ottawa County  
      ii. Month-long reading program where all area libraries do events that go along with the readings  
      iii. Thursday Nov. 7th 7pm for book discussion of “In the Time of the Butterflies” by Julia Alvarez  
      iv. Oct. 5th giveaway for the Big Read books  
   d. Staff Changes  
      i. 3 new hires  
      ii. Currently hiring a page, 2 evenings a week and every other Saturday  

V. Old business  
   a. Friends of the Library group  
      i. Purpose: Support Library through fundraising and advocacy (ex: book sale), attending related workshops/conferences  
      ii. Time Commitment: Once every 2-3 months to meet, possibly more frequent in early stages/around an event  
      iii. Yearly dues: approx. $10 a year  
      iv. Advertise in Allendale Announcer, small posters  
      v. October 24–1st Meeting for Friends (tentative time 6:30?)  
   b. Update on Grocery Store Literacy Project  
      i. Rotary meeting for support on acquiring books  
      ii. Possibility to expand to other locations  

VI. New business  
   a. Fines Free on Children’s and Young Adult Materials  
      i. Empower lower-income families to use the library
ii. Children not reading at grade level (MSTEP) will be held back – want to encourage reading
iii. Studies show no significant differences in return rates
iv. Many other area libraries have dropped these fines
v. Unanimous vote in favor of waiving fines on print materials for all age levels

b. Santa’s visit will be 11am on Dec. 7th

c. Social media posts to highlight collection items to check out (i.e. sewing machine, Cricut, Xbox, Pass to Children’s Museum, etc.)

VII. Public Comments
a. Barb would like Lizzie to come to the Township Board and do a report about the library
b. Adult literacy discussion – Love Inc., connect with Grand Valley State Univ.

VIII. Adjournment