

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2025 MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN HALL LIBRARY
TOWN OF MERTON, NORTH LAKE, WISCONSIN**

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:45 pm by President Cull. Also attending were Trustees Boettcher, Dolphin, Herrick, Mesenbrink, Rogers Blum, Stover, Library Director Iyengar, Sarah Thompson, Adult Services Librarian, and town residents Joe LeVan, Robin LeVan, Holly Stapleton, and Christie Thusius.

II. Public Input:

Each of the town residents spoke about their displeasure with the library's new electronic sign, commenting they thought it was out of character for the library, an intrusion on their homes, unneeded, a hazard, and they requested its removal. The residents stated they should have been consulted before the sign was approved. Joe LeVan requested this board change its meeting time to 6:30 or 7:00 pm to accommodate town residents. Cull thanked them for their input, and stated this board will address their concerns at a future meeting. Iyengar said her staff is still learning how to program the sign, and she will ask them to make the display more pleasing.

Sarah Thompson introduced herself, and said she is happy to be employed by the library. She was previously an English instructor at the University of South Carolina.

Iyengar was asked by a patron to waive the \$20 fine charged for a kit that was returned in a damaged condition. The board reviewed the procedure used to check kits in and out, and it was decided the fee would be waived for this patron only once, as the procedure is appropriate, and the patron has been made aware of our return requirements.

III. Consent Agenda:

- a. The Minutes of the December 16 2024 meeting were unanimously approved on Motion by Cull, seconded by Boettcher.
- b. The Statistics report was accepted as presented.

IV. Committee Reports:

- i. Director's Report:
 - 2024 statistics improved over 2023 in all categories, and she complimented her staff and teamwork as contributing to the increases.
 - Some programs have been very well attended, and others have not.
- ii. Bridges Library System:
 - The reports were accepted as presented.
- iii. Friends Liaison:
 - The Friends board approved \$2,250 to fund Zoo, Domes, and Betty Brinn passes for 2025.
 - A gardening program by Melinda Meyers is being planned for Spring.
 - The Friends hope to find a \$300 sponsor for yoga classes at the library.
 - They are pricing lawn maintenance services.
 - The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Library will be May 29 this year at Chenequa Country Club, and will again feature a silent auction fund raiser.
- iv. Foundation Liaison:
 - No report.
- v. Town Board Liaison:
 - He will report to the Town Board about the electronic sign complaints.
- vi. School Board Liaison:

- No report.

V. Financial Reports:

- a. December 2024 invoices for \$51,534.48 were unanimously approved on Motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Boettcher.
- b. December, 2024 Petty Cash Report for \$109.55 was approved unanimously on Motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Dolphin.

VI. Unfinished Business:

None.

VII. New Business:

- a. Quotes for the drywall repair in the lower level were reviewed. Iyengar reported that Town Clerk Hann said there would be no insurance coverage. After discussion, Motion by Cull, seconded by Boettcher and unanimously approved to accept the bid of Kelmann Restoration.
- b. Review was made of the library's emergency closing and safety policy, and it was compared to the policies of other libraries. The board asked Iyengar to present a revised policy at a future meeting.

VIII. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:58pm on Motion by Cull, Seconded by Rogers Blum, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Rogers Blum
Secretary

Next Meeting: Regular Library Board of Trustees
February 17, 2025 at the Town Hall Library at 3:45 pm

