Waunakee Public Library Library Board Meeting Library Programming Room Friday, December 21, 2018 7:45 AM

Agendas may change prior to the commencement of the meeting. Please check the posting board at the entrance to the library.

- I. Call to order:
- II. Roll call: Annie Ballweg, Jean Elvekrog, Kathy Grosskopf, Erin Moran, Mike Ricker, Cindy Turner, Geoff Vine, Erick Plumb. Introduction of guests.
- III. Consent agenda
 - A. Approval of minutes from November 17, 2018 meeting
 - B. Approval of monthly expenditures
 - C. Financial Reports, including Forever Fund and 220 Account
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Director's Report
- VI. Old Business
 - A. Construction Committee Report: Geoff Vine
 - B. Capital Campaign Committee Report: Annie Ballweg
 - C. Communications Committee Report: Mike Ricker
- VII. Adjourn

Next Library Board meeting: Friday, January 18, 2019 at 7:45 AM---program room

Notice is hereby given that the Village Board may attend this meeting. No action will be taken by the Village Board at this meeting.

Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in an accessible location or form should contact the municipal clerk at (608) 850-8500, 500 West Main Street, Waunakee, Wisconsin.

Waunakee Public Library

Library Board Meeting

Friday, November 16, 2018

7:45 AM

Library Programming Room

- I. Call to order: Jean called the meeting to order at 7:45 AM
- II. Roll Call:
 - **A.** Roll call: Present: Annie Ballweg, Jean Elvekrog, Kathy Grosskopf, Erin Moran, Mike Ricker, Cindy Turner, Geoff Vine and Erick Plumb.
 - B. Guest: Angela Hircock
- III. Approval of consent agenda- Annie moved, Mike seconded, Passed.
- IV. Public comment: none
- Library Director's Report: Erick introduced the newly hired Youth Services Librarian/Teen ٧. Program, Angela Hircock and a brief discussion of the focus and upcoming programming for teens followed. Welcome Angela! Work on the new building continues a contingent of 40 people attended the "field trip" to the construction site in October. The change in the opening date has budget implications for reduced personnel costs. Erick and three library staff members attended the Wisconsin Library Association annual conference in late October. The session of most interest to Erick was "The One-page Strategic Plan." Our next strategic plan process will probably begin again in late 2019. The full director's report including youth service and adult service sections was included in the Board packet. Referencing the Adult Services report the "All around Town" program in September was a success and all business participants are planning to participate again in 2019. Library 2019 Budget: The 2019 Budget is prepared and will be reviewed by the Village Board on November 19th. Increases are in the expected building and personnel budget lines. Sunday hours are under future consideration and would add to personnel budgeting in 2020. Revenue from Dane County based on circulation and building square footage will offset the budget in 2020 and beyond.

VI. Old Business

A. Construction Committee Report: Geoff Vine

Progress on the building continues with change order #3 finalized and budgetary adjustments. Geoff will be presenting a building status and budget update to the Village Board on November 19th. Overall, with donated fee contributions from Vogel and Parisi and bridge design modifications, the bridge is now in the final plans. The July 2019 completion date remains in place with a tentative August 1st opening date.

B. Capital Campaign Committee: Annie Ballweg

A copy of the Capital Campaign postcard was included in the Board packet. Postcards will be mailed to all Waunakee households with hopes to reach the stretch goal of \$1,600,000.

C. Communications Committee Report: Mike Ricker

Despite the customary rainy weather for a new site event, there were 40 people in attendance on October 19th. Additional events are in the plans as the building progresses.

VII. New business

A. Discuss and Approve Resolution to Transfer Current Building to Village

A legal resolution to pass control and custody of the library building at 710 South Street to the Village was adopted by the Library Board on November 16th on a motion by Mike, second by Geoff. This allows the Village to lease or sell the building and/or property and determine how the proceeds shall be used.

VIII. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 AM on a motion by Jean, second by Annie.

Next Library Board Meeting: Friday, December 21, 2018 at 7:45 AM at WPL Programming Room.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia S. Turner, Trustee and Secretary

November 2018 Bills

Account	Vender	Amount
100-551400-290 -Leased Items		
	Gordon Flesch	
	Total	0.0
100-551400-292 -Maintenance Con	tracts	
	SCLS	
	Total	0.0
100-551400-311 – Postage		
	Elvekrog reimbursement	
	Post Office	128.0
	Total	128.0
100-551400-320 - Pubs/Subs/Dues		
	WiLS	2,149.69
	ALA	
	Rotary	341.50
	Total	2,491.1
100-551400-330-Library Travel/Traiı		
	Buzzard Billy's	
	Cuco's welcome lunch	
	Gitzlaff mileage reimbursement	82.08
	WLA Conference	-41.59
444	Total	40.49
100-551400-340 - Programs		
	Ace	
	Amazon	24.27
	Piggly Wiggly	49.50
	Bloom Bake Shop	7.50
	Apple	10.54
	Holiday card making program	87.50
	Rhonda Stevens genealogy program	50.00
,	Chad Lewis paranormal program	175.00
	Cherie St Cyr adult program	
	Dollar Tree	26.61
	Scott Mellor (Adult program)	
	Waunakee Rental	
	Leslie Bellias (adult program)	
	YuHang Li (adult program)	
	Target	12.99
	Total	443.91
100-551400-341 - Equipment	Table	
	SCLS	133.40
	Office depot	
	Total	133.40
100 551400 200 4475		
100-551400-380 – Adult Books		
	Recorded Books	
	Amazon	68.08
	Barnes & Noble	
	Baker & Taylor	4,891.68
	Waunakee High School yearbook	
	Penguin Random House	
	Waunakee Tribune	

	Total	4,959.76
100-551400-381 – Juvenile Books		
	Amazon	
	Baker & Taylor	1,704.99
	Penworthy	
	Total	1,704.99
100-551400-383 – Serial Subscriptions	T	
	Rivistas	
	Total	0.00
100-551400-384 - Digital Materials & C		
	CDW-G (Adobe cloud suite)	240.00
	Verizon -Hotspots	240.06
	Findaway (launchpads)	
	Kaspersky anti-virus for self-check	
	Demco	
	Amazon (e-books)	27.23
	Barnes & Noble (e-books)	29.98
: 	TBS faxing/scan service	
	Total	297.27
100-551400-385 – Kit Supplies		
	Amazon	714.84
	American Button Machines	365.95
	Walmart	
	Makedo	125.00
	Guitar Center	73.84
4	Total	1,279.63
100-551400-386 – Audio Materials		
	Penguin	33.75
	Amazon	
	Findaway (Playaways)	203.97
	Books on Tape	
	Recorded Books	291.96
	Midwest tape	148.89
	Total	678.57
100-551400-387 – Videos		
	Amazon	339.81
	Target	24.99
	Midwest Tape	112.20
	Total	477.00
100-551400-390 - Other (Supplies)		
	SCLS	
	Amazon	
	Demco	95.74
	Medical Environmental Recovery Inc	
	Piggly	
	Office depot	
	Office Max	
	Total	95.74
100-551400-392 - Public Relations	Minuteman Press	



	Total	0.0
104 554444 545		
101-551401-210 - Building Services		
	Coverall	1,345.0
	ADC Lock and Key	
	Plunketts Pest control	
	Wisconsin Elevator Inspection	80.0
	Russ Plumbing	99.00
	Total	1,524.0
		1,324.00
101-551401-390 - Building Other		
	Total	0.00
30-551400-810 - Equipment Replace	ment	0.00
	SCLS	
	Amazon	
	Total	0.00
		0.00
70-551400-217 - Security Systems		
	Pyramid Telephone and Security	
	, and obtainly	
	Total	
70-551400-215 - BLD Architect		0.00
	OPN	
	5.11	
20-46740011- Special Revenue Fund		
, and the same that the same t		
	Grand Total	14 252 00
	orana rotar	14,253.98

VILLAGE OF WAUNAKEE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES COMPARED TO BUDGET FOR 11 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2018

GENERAL FUND

		Current	YTD	BUDGET AMOUNT	VARIANCE	% OF BUDGET
100-43740020	COUNTY LIBRARY AID	\$0.00	\$167,147.00	\$160,046.00	(\$7,101.00)	104.44%
100-43740091 100-48540070	SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY AID DONATIONS - LIBRARY	\$0.00	\$1,106.00 \$11,244.51	\$0.00	(\$1,106.00) (\$11,244.51)	100.00% 100.00%
TOTAL		\$0.00	\$179,497.51	\$160,046.00	(\$19,451.51)	112.15%
TOTAL FUND REVENUES	IUES	\$0.00	\$179,497.51	\$160,046.00	(\$19,451.51)	112.15%
6.						
100-551400-110	LIBRARY FULL TIME	\$22,351.89	\$232,307.31	\$251,806.00	\$19,498.69	92.26%
100-551400-120	LIBRARY PART TIME	\$22,155.07	\$250,645.10	\$282,882.00	\$32,236.90	88.60%
100-551400-121	LIBRARY OVERTIME	\$0.00	\$33.77	\$0.00	(\$33.77)	100.00%
100-551400-130	LIBRARY FICA	\$3,240.25	\$35,131.09	\$40,903.00	\$5,771.91	85.89%
100-551400-131	LIBRARY RETIREMENT	\$2,457.98	\$26,686.61	\$29,585.00	\$2,898.39	90.20%
100-551400-132	LIBRARY HEALTH	\$9,161.03	\$104,172.06	\$96,775.00	(\$7,397.06)	107.64%
100-551400-133	LIBRARY LIFE	\$45.31	\$440.10	\$349.00	(\$91.10)	126.10%
100-551400-134	LIBRARY DENTAL	\$666.10	\$7,820.59	\$9,026.00	\$1,205.41	86.65%
100-551400-217	LIBRARY SECURITY SYSTEMS	\$0.00	\$323.40	\$325.00	\$1.60	99.51%
100-551400-219	LIBRARY AUTOMATION LEVY	\$0.00	\$45,612.47	\$45,527.00	(\$85.47)	100.19%
100-551400-225	LIBRARY COMMUNICATIONS	\$546.56	\$5,531.34	\$6,384.00	\$852.66	86.64%
100-551400-290	LIBRARY LEASED ITEMS	\$0.00	\$535.47	\$4,596.00	\$4,060.53	11.65%
100-551400-292	LIBRARY MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS	\$0.00	\$645.37	\$2,400.00	\$1,754.63	26.89%
100-551400-311	LIBRARY POSTAGE	\$105.54	\$933.14	\$1,250.00	\$316.86	74.65%
100-551400-320	LIBRARY PUBS/SUBS/DUES	\$2,149.65	\$5,270.16	\$2,225.00	(\$3,045.16)	236.86%
100-551400-330	LIBRARY TRAVEL/TRAINING	\$1,208.35	\$3,445.90	\$5,320.00	\$1,874.10	64.77%
100-551400-340	LIBRARY PROGRAMS	\$516.34	\$13,687.23	\$10,600.00	(\$3,087.23)	129.12%
100-551400-341	LIBRARY EQUIPMENT	\$133.40	\$3,423.54	\$4,000.00	\$576.46	85.59%
100-551400-380	LIBRARY ADULT BOOKS	\$2,965.65	\$25,449.17	\$36,300.00	\$10,850.83	70.11%
100-551400-381	LIBRARY JUVENILE BOOKS	\$1,663.11	\$17,052.92	\$18,750.00	\$1,697.08	90.95%
100-551400-383	LIBRARY SERIAL SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$0.00	\$8,199.31	\$13,750.00	\$5,550.69	29.63%

7

LIBRARY COMPUTER SOFTWARE

100-551400-385 100-551400-385 100-551400-386 100-551400-387

LIBRARY AUDIO MATERIALS

LIBRARY VIDEOS LIBRARY OTHER

100-551400-390

100-551400-391 100-551401-110 100-551401-130 100-551401-131 100-551401-132 100-551401-133

LIBRARY KIT SUPPLIES

LIBRARY PUBLIC RELATIONS

LIBRARY PERSONNEL

LIBRARY BLDG FULL TIME

LIBRARY BLDG FICA

LIBRARY BLDG RETIREMENT

LIBRARY BLDG HEALTH

																				_	
% OF BUDGET	120.47%	68.80%	65.29%	103.23%	84.71%	100.00%	67.44%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	82.81%	86.80%	63.24%	10.01%	47.94%	90.78%	%82.06	86.44%
VARIANCE	(\$2,116.83)	\$935.89	\$3,644.65	(\$274.19)	\$1,745.05	(\$49.00)	\$1,131.58	(\$563.04)	(\$41.88)	(\$37.74)	(\$246.25)	(\$0.93)	(\$18.42)	\$3,765.17	\$1,584.50	\$904.25	\$1,519.10	\$182.20	\$87,471.06	\$87,471.06	(\$106,922.57)
BUDGET AMOUNT	\$10,340.00	\$3,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$8,500.00	\$11,412.00	\$0.00	\$3,475.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21,900.00	\$12,000.00	\$2,460.00	\$1,688.00	\$350.00	\$948,378.00	\$948,378.00	(\$788,332.00)
YTD	\$12,456.83	\$2,064.11	\$6,855.35	\$8,774.19	\$9,666.95	\$49.00	\$2,343.42	\$563.04	\$41.88	\$37.74	\$246.25	\$0.93	\$18.42	\$18,134.83	\$10,415.50	\$1,555.75	\$168.90	\$167.80	\$860,906.94	\$860,906.94	(\$681,409.43)
Current	\$187.16	\$445.31	\$1,753.37	\$665.16	\$215.36	\$0.00	\$2,309.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,708.00	\$887.73	\$183.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77,721.22	\$77,721.22	(\$77,721.22)

TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES

NET REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES

8

LIBRARY BLDG REPAIRS/MAINT

100-551401-350

100-551401-390

TOTAL

LIBRARY BLDG OTHER

LIBRARY BLDG GAS HEAT

LIBRARY BLDG SERVICES LIBRARY BLDG UTILITIES

100-551401-210

100-551401-220

LIBRARY BLDG DENTAL

LIBRARY BLDG LIFE

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REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES COMPARED TO BUDGET FOR 11 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2018 VILLAGE OF WAUNAKEE

LIBRARY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

	Current	YTD	BUDGET AMOUNT	VARIANCE	% OF BUDGET
220-46740011 PUBLIC CHARGES	\$1,100.49	\$9,949.57	\$14,700.00	\$4,750.43	%89".29
	\$160.80	\$1,995.29	\$1,300.00	(\$695.29)	153.48%
	\$54.00	\$223.00	\$225.00	\$2.00	99.11%
ZZU-48540070 DONATIONS	\$0.00	\$614.09	\$0.00	(\$614.09)	100.00%
тотаL	\$1,315.29	\$12,781.95	\$16,225.00	\$3,443.05	78.78%
TOTAL FUND REVENUES	\$1,315.29	\$12,781.95	\$16,225.00	\$3,443.05	78.78%
NET REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	\$1,315.29	\$12,781.95	\$16,225.00	\$3,443.05	78.78%

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VILLAGE OF WAUNAKEE

TRIAL BALANCE FOR 11 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2018

YTD BUDGET	8 60.00 00.00 00.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
YTD ACTUAL	\$38,133.80 \$0.00 \$0.00	80.00	00:08	\$0.00	80.00	\$476.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$540.00	\$124,244.26	\$0.00	\$9,949.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,995.29	\$0.00	\$223.00	\$0.00	\$614.09
	220-11110 COMMINGLED CASH 220-11210 LIBRARY SPECIAL REVENUE CASH 220-11501 CD INVESTMENTS	220-11580 LIBRARY CD 599001246 220-11581 LIBRARY CD 12359399		220-11584 LIBRARY T-BILL 220-11585 CD cert 791962692			-			_	_	20.0				100		_	_	St. 3000		220-48540070 DONATIONS



1030243: Waunakee Library Forever Fund

Balance	10/1/2018 To 10/31/2018
balance	
Beginning Balance	271,006.65
Contributions/Gifts	271,000.03
Contributions*	0.00
*Contribution totals include net gift amounts for credit card gifts. Each credit card gift is assessed a merchant processing fee by the donor's credit card company of approximately 4%.	0.00
Transfers In	0.00
	0.00
Portfolio Gains (Losses)	0.00
Investment Results, Net Of Fees	(10,684.22)
	(10,684.22)
Grants/Distributions	
Grants/Distributions	
Transfers Out	0.00
MCF Support	0.00
тел очирова	(225.84)
	(225.84)
Ending Balance	\$260,096.59
Cash Available for Grants as of 10/31/2018	\$0.00

WAUNAKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

November

2018

November 2010	-			-		Y		
		2018			017	% Change	% Change	YTD
	November	Prev Month \	/r-to-date	November	Yr-to-date	Prev Month	Prev Year	% Change
# of Days Library was open	, 24	27	282	24	281	-11.1%	N/A	N/A
CIRCULATION								
Physical circulation	17,835	19,575	224,266	17,929	215,010	-8.9%	-0.5%	4.3%
Digital circulation	2,142	2,374	23,486	1,544	19,012	-9.8%	38.7%	23.5%
Library Total	19,977	21,949	247,752	19,473	234,022	-9.0%	2.6%	5.9%
Per Day library was open	832	813	879	811	833	2.4%	2.6%	5.5%
Average of Deforest, Monona and	27,363	28,748	327,516	28,207	325,522	-4.8%	-3.0%	0.6%
By Category								
Books								
Juvenile Fiction	1,707	1,995	25,885	1,832	23,228	-14.4%	-6.8%	11.4%
Juvenile Non-Fiction	943	1,060	14,742	963	12,361	-11.0%	-2.1%	19.3%
Easy Readers	1,023	1,185	13,776	1,370	13,954	-13.7%	-25.3%	-1.3%
Picture books	3,065	3,507	38,122	3,087	32,889	-12.6%	-0.7%	15.9%
Total Juvenile	6,738	7,747	92,525		82,432	-13.0%	-7.1%	12.2%
Young Adult	451	482	7,641			-6.4%	-12.3%	8.7%
Adult Fiction	2,106	2,316	25,001	1,957	24,606	-9.1%	7.6%	1.6%
Adult non-Fiction	1,968		22,395			-6.1%	-14.1%	-19.9%
Large print	454		4,733		4,276	-10.1%	38.0%	10.7%
Adult Paperbacks	177	210	2,880				-28.0%	4.2%
Total Adult	4,705		55,009				-2.4%	-7.7%
Magazines	294	346	4,543	414	5,375	-15.0%	-29.0%	-15.5%
Audio	1,455		14,598		40.00		-5.9%	-15.1%
DVD and video	3,106		36,688					2.6%
Software	21		266					-30.5%
Kits	939		11,317					-10.1%
Electric Resources	0		0					
E-reader, laptops, equipment	60		747					
E-books	2,142		23,486					
% of total circulation	10.7%		9.5%					
	10.770	10.676	3.370	7.570	0.570	0.570	33.270	.,,,,
PROGRAMS								
Children	35	36	343	28	323	-2.8%	25.0%	6.2%
Number			13,560					
Attendance	854	1,210	15,500	934	14,232	_23.570	-0.070	3.170
Young adult	_	4	36	1	31	25.0%	400.0%	16.1%
Number	5		163					
Attendance	29	10	103		202	190.070	300.770	15.570
Adult	44	. 9	101	4	61	22.2%	175.0%	65.6%
Number	11							
Attendance	149	/5	1,340	/3	1,762	30.770	, 30.770	24.070
# OF USES OF PUBLIC COMPUTERS *	6,994	6,337	59,600	4,240	57,473	10.4%	65.0%	3.7%
# OF VISITORS TO LIBRARY	11,654	13,392	144,135	11,403	138,702	-13.0%	2.2%	3.9%

Library Activity Report Erick Plumb December 2018

Work on the new building continues. The masonry work on the building has gone up quickly and drawn positive notice by community members. The stone in particular is wonderfully attractive. We remain on pace for a July 2019 completion date, with an August 1 Opening date. Geoff Vine briefed the Village Board on the status of the project budget and construction progress at the November 19 meeting (see attached *Tribune* story). The good news that we hope gets spread widely around the community is that we are below budget currently and on target for a July completion date.

We have wrapped up furniture and fixture selection with OPN. The management team took a field trip to a showroom near Chicago to look at shelving. While shelving is decidedly non-exciting, we think patrons will appreciate the difference in shelving design that they will encounter in the new building. No shelving unit will be taller than 66" tall, compared to the 80" shelves at the current library, and the lower shelves will be angles upwards to make items on the lowest shelves easier to find and reach. Staff service desks and checkout kiosks were selected. OPN will put out its furniture bid in January.

The Friends of Library's annual Book Sale and Craft Fair was held at the Intermediate School on Saturday, November 17. It was a great success (I had trouble finding parking!), and raised over \$5,000 for the group, not counting the proceeds from renting spaces to crafters. Bravo to the Friends for another successful Book & Bake Sale and Craft Fair, and, as always, we thank them for their dedication to the Waunakee Library.

Longtime library staff employee Gay Strandemo a children's book that she wrote and illustrated. *Yule Boys* is an Icelandic folk tale regarding traditions leading up to Christmas. Gay held a program and reading of her book at the Library on December 18. She was also featured in a front-page story in the Waunakee *Tribune* (attached). Congrats to Gay on fulfilling her dream of publishing a book!

Library Assistant Beth Watson submitted her resignation as she has secured a fulltime teaching position. Her last day will be December 27. While she will be missed, we are glad that she found a terrific new opportunity. We will post to replace her 12 hours per week position.

Substitute Library Assistant Jane Jutzronka also left the library; her final day was December 11. We hired Lucas Franklin as a substitute Library Assistant I. He'll work his first shift on December 27. Lucas has an MLS and moved here from Connecticut, where he managed a youth services department.

Youth Services Report by Brittany

In November I attended the SCLS summer programming workshop. This is always my nudge to begin thinking and planning for summer programs and the reading program. So far I have three of our Terrific Tuesdays and two other programs booked. I also met with the schools to confirm that we would once

again be collaborating on our summer reading programs. Courtney and I participated in the "Books on Ice" program with the Waunakee Ice Pond. Skaters were encouraged to bring donations for the library to offset their cost to skate for the afternoon. We came back with a large bin of donations. Angie continues to make great strides in developing a rapport with the teens. She's been attending the high school book club and continuing to offering weekly office hours. Her greatest success so far is the donut decorating program she did on a no-school day that attracted 16 teens.

Adult Services Report by Courtney

In November, I hosted 7 programs. I attended an adult programming meeting hosted by SCLS with other adult programmers in the area. I left overwhelmed with ideas for next year. I had a meeting with Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra on how to better promote the concert vouchers they donate to libraries in the area. I assisted the Lions Club in putting up displays at the library and at the Village Center promoting National Diabetes Awareness Month. We took a trip to Northbrook, Ill. to see shelving options for the new library. I attended a Drupal training at SCLS on how to better navigate and build the website.

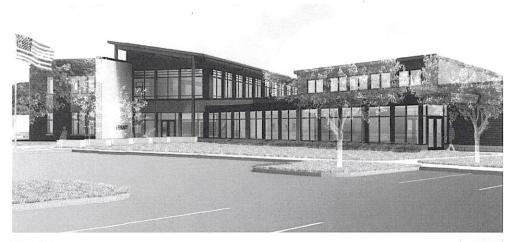
Erick's Meetings and Appearances this month

- Rotary Board of Directors, November 6
- Village Department Heads, November 6
- New Library fireplace review, November 8
- Rotary, November 8
- New Library management team tour, November 13
- Library construction meeting, November 13
- Village Center/Library management lunch, November 14
- Library Staff meeting, November 14
- All-Directors SCLS meeting, Fitchburg, November 15
- Friends of the Library Book & Bake sale, November 17
- Geoff Sabin, Thysse, November 19
- Village Board, November 19
- Trip to LFI, Northbrook, IL re: shelving, November 20
- Library construction meeting, November 27

http://www.hngnews.com/waunakee_tribune/news/local/article_4a227000-29b6-54d0-8664-5c3f0f29bfbe.html

Library budget still in line

By Roberta Baumann tribnews@hngnews.com Dec 7, 2018



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As construction continues on the new Waunakee Public Library at North Madison Street, building costs remain under budget.

At the Dec. 3 Waunakee Village Board meeting, Geoff Vine, the owner's representative for the village provided an update.

The building is halfway through the schedule. The concrete has been poured, roofing is underway, and the exterior shell is becoming enclosed, allowing the interior construction to begin. Vine, a citizen with an extensive construction background providing his expertise pro bono, added that the building is expected to be done in July. The hope is to open the library in August after the furniture and books are in place, he said.

The project has been challenging, Vine said. The former Waunakee Alloy site had soil contamination, since removed by the Environmental Protection Agency. Issues with poor soil were also found due of the low lying area, along with the construction of the previous building.

The poor bearing soil has been removed, along with former foundations, Vine said.

The fundraising goal for the project had been \$1.5 million, but already that amount has been pledged and \$1.2 million is in the bank, allowing the fundraising goal to be upped to \$1.65 million. The project was awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, and now costs for eligible items will have to justified, allowing the funds to be granted next year.

The hope is to have the existing library property sold some time next year, as well, Vine said.

Vogel is the general contractor. Some change orders have allowed the inclusion of a pedestrian bridge and new sidewalk on North Madison Street, Vine said.

"We worked hard to reduce the cost and make sure we could stay within budget," Vine said, adding that Library Director Erick Plumb scaled down some items. Parisi construction also contributed, reducing fees for the bridge, and Vogel cut its fee in half for managing the bridge project, Vine said.

The total library cost, which was anticipated to come in under \$15 million, is now at \$14,555,973, Vine told the board. The net cost is now at \$11,340,373, he added.



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Vine's statement, "I think everyone should be happy we're under budget," was met by applause from trustees and others at the meeting.

Asked how Plumb was able to scale down some costs, Plumb noted that the sacrifices have been few. The purchase of an automated sorting machine was delayed, Plumb said, and some technology will be moved from the old building rather than purchasing new.

Vine's presentation followed a request to have the village take a Mayor's Monarch Pledge, to protect habitat for the butterflies, whose numbers have decreased.

He told the board areas on the library site without mowed grass would be planted with prairies.

"We will make sure to have milkweed in the mix," he said.

Roberta Baumann



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Waunakee librarian writes, illustrates new book

By Peter Lindblad tribstaff@hngnews.com Dec 6, 2018



Gay Strandemo Peter Lindblad

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Lovers of ancient Icelandic folk tales might recognize the subjects of Gay Strandemo's new book, her first.

Fascinated by the story of the 13 Jolasveinar, or Yule boys, since she first came across it, the Waunakee librarian has put her own spin on the Yuletide yarn, which has become a family favorite.

It almost didn't feel like work for Strandemo.

"It was actually relaxing and I loved the work of drawing and writing the text," said Strandemo.

A book launch for "The Yule Boys," written and illustrated by Strandemo, will be held Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Waunakee Public Library. Strandemo will read the book and sign copies that will be available for purchase.

It's a story she treasures, as the book was a labor of love.

"While working at the public library, I also wrote and directed a series of plays for children each summer for the local school system and later at my public library every year for over a decade," said Strandemo. "These plays were usually based on international folk tales - always an interest of mine. It was when I was writing a play based on Scandinavian folk tales that I came upon the story of the Yule Boys and was captivated enough by the notion of these mischievous Jolasveinar to start the tradition of the Boys' visit to my own young children."

Such occasions included holiday parties for friends and family to celebrate the Yule Boys' return every season.

"We've done this for many years - it's always a great time," said Strandemo.

What convinced her to do it? It was mostly a sense that the story deserved a wider audience.

"While visiting the American-Scandinavian Foundation's building in New York City during December 2017, I overheard a gift shop worker respond to a phone inquiry by saying, 'Thirteen what? No, no, we haven't any such thing like that here,'" said Strandemo. "That was when I figured that the story of the Yule Boys must be told, so that everyone can have fun celebrating them."

Strandemo grew up in a Nordic-American family in northern Minnesota. Both of her parents worked, so she spent days with her grandparents, who lived above the men's clothing store they ran.

"My grandfather was artistic and drew beautifully, and encouraged me to draw, so from a young age I did," said Strandemo.

In her family, the Yule season was "celebrated with gusto," she said.

As a librarian, Strandemo has always had some kind of an art project going as well, including a period where she acted at a local experimental theater in Madison. She also had a band that performed music she wrote. Strandemo did the singing.

To make "The Yule Boys," Strandemo had to start drawing again. She said, "I hadn't drawn anything in ages."

First, she asked if her husband or her artist sister would be interested in illustrating the story. They were helpful, she said. Ultimately, however, Strandemo realized she "had the strongest inspiration and motivation to tell this story," so she went to Artist & Craftsman Supply in Madison and "loaded up on every supply imaginable for bringing my vision to paper."

It wasn't long before she got the hang of it.

"Once I began drawing – I loved the task as I had as a child – it felt as though the Yule Boys themselves were directing my choices for each of their profiles," said Strandemo.

It took about four months, said Strandemo, who added, "just because I did one boy a week on my morning off from work. Then there was a bit of re-do, but all in all, it was a great and relaxing experience."

Drawing the landscape and environs of Iceland was challenging, as Strandemo had never been to the country. Eventually, she had to alter some of the details of her final drawings for the book, including laying more snow and making the skies darker to match the time of year.

"One thing I did on purpose was creating the look of the Yule Boys to resemble teenage boys rather than old men – it was just how I had always pictured them, so I went with that image," said Strandemo.

To ensure correct grammar and spellings, Strandemo connected with Sunna Furstenau of the Icelandic Roots organization. Furstenau and an Icelandic intern went over the text, with with intern correcting a few spelling and grammar errors to make for authenticity and accuracy.

In the process, Furstenau was able to show Strandemo how they were related through different Icelandic family connections that Strandemo did not know.

Overall, the whole process was a joy for Strandemo.

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"It has been a fun learning experience for my husband, the self-publisher of 'The Yule Boys,' and myself," said Strandemo. "We decided to go that route in order to really own the interpretation ourselves, and it has been a rewarding decision."

