



June 09, 2023

LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE

The Village of Forsyth Library Commission has scheduled a meeting for
Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held in the Program Room at the Forsyth Public Library.
The agenda for the meeting is attached.

If you have any questions, please call the Library at 217-877-8174.

Library Director
Steven Ward

cc: Mary Jane Linton
Rebecca Wayne
Mary Jo Rowley
Ken Kirschner
Pat Parr
Ruth Wrigley Harvey
Lisa Peck
Trustee Bob Gruenewald
Trustee Dave Wendt
Trustee Marilyn Johnson
Trustee Jeremy Shaw
Trustee Jeff London
Trustee Lauren Young
Mayor Jim Peck
Village Administrator Jill Applebee
Village Clerk Cheryl Marty
Village Administrative Assistant Kim Taylor

Village of Forsyth Public Library
Library Commission Meeting Agenda

Wednesday June 14, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Forsyth Public Library Program Room

The regular monthly meeting of the Forsyth Public Library Commission is scheduled for Wednesday June 14, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the Program Room located in the library.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Minutes

- Minutes from May 10, 2023

Public comment: Anyone who wishes to address the Library Commission may do so at this time. Please state your name and address, and limit comments to three minutes or less. Relevant printed material and handouts that support your concerns or topic are welcome.

Old Business

New Business

- Nonresident Cards
- Summer Reading Program 2023

Librarian's Report

- Comments and Discussion
- Circulation, Attendance, and Library Stats for May

Adjournment



.....

Library Commission Meeting Minutes
Village of Forsyth Public Library
Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Call to Order

Call to order at 1:02 p.m. by Mary Jo Rowley

Roll Call

Mary Jo Rowley
Pat Parr
Becky Wayne
Mary Jane Linton
Ken Kirchner
Lisa Peck

Absent

Ruth Wrigley Harvey

Also Present

Steven Ward, Library Director

Minutes

Motion made by Pat Parr to accept the meeting minutes for the March 8, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Mary Jane Linton. Motion carried on voice vote; all members present voting yea.

Public Comment

None

Old Business

None

New Business

- Ken Kirchner and Mary Jane Linton were reappointed to the Library Commission through 2026.
- Lisa Peck made a motion to select Mary Jane Linton as Library Commission Chair and Becky Wayne as Library Commission Secretary. Ken Kirchner seconded the motion. Motion carried on voice vote; all members present voting yea.
- Mary Jane Linton made a motion to accept Library Commission meeting dates and times through May 2024 as presented. Pat Parr seconded. Motion carried on voice vote; all members present voting yea.
- Steven gave members a copy of each member's information.

Librarian's Report

- Library owned local history materials are being inventoried. An improved history collection will be accessible both in the library and online.
- The focus in 2023 is for the library staff to grow and improve in their roles.

- Steven talked about the new IL Legislation related to censorship and how it would directly impact libraries.
- Steven was asked to write an article on Intellectual Freedom and De-escalation for a professional publication.
- The library hosted a Boy Scout Merit Badge event on April 1.
- Chair Yoga takes place on Wednesdays in the Community Room. It is a very popular adult activity and will continue through the year.
- The library's online resources are currently being evaluated.
- Some minor changes have been made to the children's department to create more play space.
- Steven had a great experience serving as a mentor for Directors University 2.0.
- Jana Howe is doing a great job leading the youth programs.
- Several library projects will be completed soon. These include security cameras, shelving and furniture, computers, and a TV above the circulation desk.
- Adding Roku sticks to the library collection is being researched.
- Registration for the Summer Reading Program "Find Your Voice" begins June 5. The Kick-Off event is June 10. Many amazing prizes donated from area businesses will be awarded.
- The Larry Reed Memorial Youth Garden will be planted on June 6 with assistance from youth volunteers and the Garden Club of Decatur.
- The library's annual book sale has been a big success.
- Patron card registration as of March 31, includes 1,462 adults and 161 juveniles. The March 2023 patron count is 3,021, which is 321 more than March 2022. Circulation for March 2023 is 5,031, which is 44 more than March 2022. Materials checked out by non-Forsyth patrons is 2,088. Materials checked out by Forsyth patrons at other libraries is 365.
- Patron card registration as of April 30 includes 1,469 adults and 158 juveniles. The April 2023 patron count is 2,395, which is 157 more than April 2022. Circulation for April 2023 is 4,423, which is 78 more than April 2022. Materials checked out by non-Forsyth patrons is 1,774. Materials checked out by Forsyth patrons at other libraries is 393.

Adjournment

The next library commission meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2023. Ken Kirchner moved to adjourn. Pat Parr seconded. The motion carried on voice vote; all members present voting yea.

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Wayne



**Library Director's Report
Library Commission Meeting
June 14, 2023**

May Library Statistics

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| • Circulation - 4,338 | May 2022 - 4,421 |
| • Attendance - 2,673 | May 2022 - 2,362 |

Library Activities

- The library's annual book sale was a success, with a total of \$799.53 in donations received from our patrons.
- We received an award letter for the FY23 Public Library Per Capita grant from the Illinois Secretary of State's Office. The total amount of this year's grant is \$5,507.65.
- With school out, the library has seen a large increase in patronage, and we are excited to see so many residents using the library each day.
- The Larry Reed Memorial Youth Garden was planted on Tuesday, June 6th, with help from the Garden Club of Decatur and fifteen plus youth volunteers. Carol Reed also attended the event.
- I had a productive area director's meeting at the Vespasian Warner Public Library in Clinton on Tuesday, May 30th. These quarterly meetings are a great opportunity for networking and idea sharing.
- My article "De-escalation: A Crucial Tool in Libraries for Promoting Intellectual Freedom" was published in the June 2023 issue of the Illinois Library Association (ILA) Reporter. I will share copies of the article with everyone.
- Local history work continues at the library, with archival processes related to digitization and preservation slowly ramping up. Increasing public access to local history items is one of the many goals, and we are hopeful that we will be able to make more items available soon.

*Steven Ward
June 09, 2023*