

Joint Meeting of the Boards
Thursday, July 15, 2021
Lillie M. Evans Library
207 N. Walnut Ave., Princeville, IL 61559
7:00pm
Board of Trustees, Village of Princeville
Board of Education, Princeville School District 326
Board of Trustees, Lillie M. Evans Library District

Welcome

Jeff Troutman, President, Board of Trustees for the Village of Princeville, welcomed all groups to the meeting.

Roll Call of Boards

Roll call showed the board members were physically present:

Board of Trustees, Village of Princeville

President Troutman, Trustee Delbridge, Trustee Peterson, Trustee Pope

*Village Clerk – Sarah Cordis

*Village Treasurer – Julie Delbridge

Board of Education, Princeville School District 326

Erin Murphy, Grant DeBord, Jeremy Duckworth, Sue Hefler, Darwin Stahl

*Superintendent – Shannon Duling

Board of Trustees, Lillie M. Evans Library District

Gayle Johnson- Brackett, Teresa Bouton, Diane Smith, Deb Givens, Randy Ingle, Ellen Cluskey, Zach Waldis

*Library Director, Beth Duttlinger

Introduction of Library Board and Remarks

Director Duttlinger reported that the library closed on March 18, 2020 due to COVID. All staff were out of the library. Staff partially returned in April, full staff returned in May, and the library opened back up to the public on June 10. The library had a lot of interest during COVID. They were still checking out materials. Adjustments were being made regularly. The library's expanded space has helped with staff being able to spread out, allowing the public in, and allowed for a good flow. The library had a new HVAC installed when the addition was put on. New HEPA filters are in the older HVAC units to allow for better air movement.

Director Duttlinger said that there was constant research in how COVID impacted materials – what did the library need to do once library materials were return, how long did they need to be quarantined, how long does COVID stay on book covers, etc. Research showed that COVID could not easily be transmitted on materials.

Director Duttlinger said the library hosted more outdoor programming. Usage/circulation overall is down, but online resources (audiobooks and books) have seen a significant increase. The Libby app seems to be the favorite among users.

The library is only open late one evening a week. They will resume three late evenings a week this Fall. The increased minimum wage rate has affected the number of hours the library is open.

Director Duttlinger reviewed a number of items (non-book related) that the library has purchased for circulation – hot spots, a large tent, etc. The library also has a large-scale printer, available for those who need large scale items printed. The Lillie M. Evens library assisted the Princeville School District in purchasing hot spots using grant money.

Director Duttlinger reviewed some upcoming events at the Lillie M. Evans library, and highlighted some new changes made to the website.

The library will be doing their long-range plan this year. This is done every three years.

Introduction of School Board and Remarks

Superintendent Duling stated that the front of the grade school has completed its security entrance. The new driveway, parking lot and digital sign are all completed.

He noted that there are a group of schools who are working together to hopefully secure grants for electric buses.

Superintendent Duling discussed the Unit Office on North Town Avenue. The daycare has been extremely successful. There is a waiting list, and there is not enough classroom space available. This was especially true during COVID when kids and staff needed to maintain social distancing. The migrant HeadStart program served ten (10) students this year. (Low number due to COVID.) Next year he expects this number to be around twenty (20). Kids come from Morton and Peoria for the HeadStart program.

Superintendent Duling said that the Unit Office needs to redo the basement area. It will be converted to a classroom.

The fire marshal did inspections at the Unit Office. The building needs to make changes to be up to code. They are still in need of a storage building at the Unit Office. The school is currently using the old grocery store to store items.

There will be a ribbon cutting for the new track. This will take place at the first football game on Friday, August 27th.

Superintendent Duling said that the District enrollment is down about 100 kids. The District is working hard to not have to make cuts but rather make changes through attrition.

Superintendent Duling is very proud of the District for the job they did throughout the year, during all of the COVID mitigations- masking, social distancing, changed schedules, etc. He noted that there was very limited spread at school, if any.

He was proud that the school year ended with extracurriculars, graduation took place, and there was a modified prom.

The first day of the 2021-2022 school year is August 17th. The first week will be 2:15 PM dismissal. As far as COVID precautions, the District will work in cooperation with the local health departments. Hopefully that will provide more insight. Whatever plan is determined, it

will most likely be very fluid and could change at any time. He is looking forward to getting back to normal. He is extremely proud of his staff and the children!

Director Duttlinger asked Superintendent Dulling if the library will see the kids come back next school year. He is hopeful and would like that to happen, but decisions will be made based on the conversations with the health departments.

Introduction of Village Board and Remarks

President Troutman introduced newest members - Sarah Cordis, Clerk and Trustee Rick Pope.

Trustee Delbridge stated that the West-end sewer needs updating, and will raise resident's sewer rates. Well #4 was recently replaced. Edelstein has approached the Village about running water to Edelstein. Edelstein would be responsible for the infrastructure and the village would supply the water.

Trustee Delbridge also stated that most all of the lots at Aten Acres are sold. There is work on the next phase of lots, which will be larger lots.

President Troutman informed everyone that the Village has installed meters at all residences and Julie has updated the water billing system. During COVID, the Village lost some gaming tax revenue.

President Troutman is happy to share the Peoria County school resource officer with the School District. The officer is at the school four (4) hours a day and patrols throughout the Village the rest of the day. Schedules vary so that she is not at the schools at the same time every day.

President Troutman said the Village started the comprehensive plan prior to COVID and then it was delayed a year. The comprehensive plan should be done every five (5) years. Russ Hyde retired and Brian Holt was hired.

President Troutman is proud of the work the Code Enforcement Officer is doing. He feels the Village looks nice, and for the most part residents comply with the enforcements.

President Troutman said the Village is working with the owners of the old Alcoa property. Very few details can be released at this point, but more information will be coming.

President Troutman complimented the Village staff on a job well-done during COVID.

President Troutman said that the Village nighttime officer, Deputy Martinez, is usually in the Village from 6:45 PM – 2:45 AM.

Lastly, the Village signed a contract with Discover Peoria, Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, to assist with marketing, event promotions, etc. Businesses have the ability to add their items/events into the categories on their website. They will also work/assist the Village with grant writing.

Princeville Civic Association Comments

Beth Duttlinger said the Princeville Civic Association (PCA) has a desire to sustain, invigorate and improve the quality of life in the area of Princeville and the surrounding area. She said she was pleased with how Heritage Days went. They plan to host the Halloween cook-out, Small Business Saturday, and do the tree lighting this year. They are looking to do a small business pop-up shopping day, within the empty spaces in downtown.

Beth stated the PCA is always looking for volunteers and input for events/activities.

Additional Comments

Beth wanted to remind everyone that the Princeville St. Jude Day will take place Saturday, July 17, at Troutman Park. She encouraged everyone to help celebrate and support St. Jude.

Jeff Troutman said that if anyone is interested in joining the Troutman Park committee to let him know. The committee is planning for a 5K race and breakfast in October at Troutman Park.

Jeff Troutman said the Akron-Princeville Fire Department purchased a brand-new fire engine, \$690,000. The Wyoming-Speer fire department purchased the Akron-Princeville fire department's old fire truck. He also said the Akron-Princeville Ambulance Service plans to receive a new ambulance in October. The ambulance squad just received a new CPR machine, designed to eliminate mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Public Comments

None.

Adjourn

Trustee Delbridge made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Trustee Pope seconded the motion.

Yeas: President Troutman, Trustee Delbridge, Trustee Pope

Nays: None

President Troutman declared the motion as passed.