

TO: Carlock Public Library District Board

FROM: Michael and Sharon Miller

RE: Objection of Library Closure

We are sending these written public comments so as to make them a part of the Library's permanent records.

We strongly object to the sudden and arbitrary closure of the Carlock Library. This library is owned and governed by the public for the benefit of the public. The arbitrary and unnecessary closing of the library is a disservice to our current patrons and all the public.

There is no authority in the Illinois statutes or in the Carlock Library's by-laws for anyone other than the Board to close the library. Those that participated in the decision to close the library have acted unlawfully and beyond their statutory authority.

Those trustees that participated in this unlawful stunt should immediately resign as trustees and allow the public to retake control of its library.

Michael and Sharon Miller

Staffing Recommendations

1. We do not have a sufficient number of regular users of the library to warrant a full-time librarian or a full-time library director (yes, there is a difference in the two jobs).

Nearly a year ago we transferred all of the accounting and financial statement work from Denise to our accountant. This freed up a lot of Denise's time. You probably also noticed that Denise was pushing more and more of her children's program work into Dawn's lap.

From now until about June there is not much need for a director.

2. We have an Assistant Librarian that I think will do a better job working with the entire Board than Denise ever did. Maybe Leann would agree to continue her part-time job as a greeter and add a few hours a week to open the mail, deal with the payroll timesheets, and train new greeters.
3. I have long been concerned about the average age of our greeters and the lack of a new generation of greeters. We should begin to methodically build a pool of younger greeters. When Leann is sitting at the greeter's desk she could also be training a new greeter. The greeter is the only job that is essential to opening the library each day. A pool of 3 or 4 new greeters would provide us a lot of staffing flexibility.
4. I am impressed by Dawn's eagerness to seek the Board's approval of her proposed reading programs for kids. She brings a cooperative attitude to the job. I think we should put her in charge of the children's reading programs, but still on a part-time basis.
5. Due to health issues Erik Larson has not been a dependable greeter for us. Due to age, I don't think we should continue to place so much reliance on either Nola or Erik. That is why the younger trainees are so important. Erik was also given the responsibility for the history room, but that has been a failure. We need to face the fact that the history room is wasted space. I suggest that when recruiting new greeters, we look for someone interested in developing a local history library.
6. In October the board voted to proceed with two collection analyses. Due to Denise's strong opposition to the project, I doubt that she proceeded to implement the Board's decision. It is my understanding that these analyses are not labor intensive on our part. I believe that Chris Bohne would agree to counsel Leann on how to proceed.