



# beloit public library

Beloit Public Library Board of Trustees

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

605 Eclipse Blvd., Beloit, WI 53511

1. Call to order and roll call – VP Maribeth Miller called the meeting to order at 4:03PM.  
Members present: Maribeth Miller, Diane Lichtenstein, David Sowl, Betty Magnus, and Rachelle Elliott. Members Absent: Mark Preuschl, Angela Moore, Florence Haley, and Amanda Isunza. Also present: Library Director Nick Dimassis and Library Leadership Team – Jennifer Laatz, Jeni Schomber, and Michael DeVries.

Maribeth Miller welcomed Rachelle Elliott to the Library Board.

2. Approval of June 19, 2019 Library Board Minutes – Diane Lichtenstein moved to approve the June 19, 2019 Library Board meeting minutes. David Sowl seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (5-0).**
3. Public Comment – None.
4. Reports:
  - a. Library Director Report - Nick Dimassis prepared a written report.
    - Nick highlighted the recent awards and articles in the Beloit Daily News. The Wisconsin Policy Forum awarded the City of Beloit and Beloit Public Library with an Honorable Mention for Innovation to Problem Solving for the new service model and Blender Café program. Beloit Literacy for Life Initiative awarded Beloit Public Library the Outreach Award at their 2019 awards program.
  - b. Arrowhead Library System – Maribeth Miller reported that ALS may receive a refund from Lynda.com as they have substantially changed their program. State library systems will receive the same level of funding for the next 2 years through the state budget. Wisconsin Library Services (WiLS) will be facilitating the strategic plan process. ALS staff and library directors will be invited to attend.
  - c. Beloit Public Library Foundation – Diane Lichtenstein reported that the board did not meet in July. Next meeting is August 14, 2019.
  - d. Friends at Beloit Library (FABL) – Nick Dimassis reported that the Library brought a request to the FABL board to approve half of the programming funds by November so library staff can start booking performers in a timely manner. We requested \$15,000. The request was approved on a consensus and will be officially approved at the September meeting. Next meeting is September 11, 2019.

5. Committees –

- a. Budget/Facilities Committee – No meeting.
- b. Personnel Committee – No meeting.
- c. Strategic Plan Committee – Diane Lichtenstein reported that the meeting was very helpful. We checked a lot of boxes and the staff are moving through the plan in the right way.

6. Action Items:

- a. Election of officers – David Sowl moved to place Election of Officers and Committee Assignments at the end of the Action Items. Diane Lichtenstein seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (5-0).**
- b. Monthly financial report and approval of library and café bills – Rachelle Elliott moved to approve the payment of the bills on the July 16, 2019 warrant in the amount of \$32,596.86 for the library, and \$4,673.64 for the Blender and the recurring expenses of \$127,248.97 for the library and \$4,862.10 for the Blender. Diane Lichtenstein seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (5-0).** We are working with FSET personnel to identify potential participants for the grant program for the Blender.
- c. Election of Officers –
  1. President - David Sowl requested a 5 minute recess. (5:55 – 6:00). David Sowl nominated Maribeth Miller for President. Maribeth Miller accepted the nomination. David inquired if there would be an issue with Maribeth working in a different library system. Maribeth works for a library in Illinois so there would not be a conflict of interest in regards to funding. Also, Maribeth is not in a management or decision making position at her library. Hearing no other nominations, Maribeth Miller is approved as Library Board President.
  2. Vice President – Diane Lichtenstein nominated David Sowl for Vice President. David Sowl accepted the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, David Sowl is approved as Library Board Vice President.
- d. Committee Assignments – Maribeth Miller would like to move forward with committee assignments with those in attendance. We can then continue the assignments at the August meeting for those who are not in attendance at this meeting.
  1. Foundation – David Sowl with 2 vacancies remaining
  2. FABL – Rachelle Elliott
  3. Personnel – Maribeth Miller, Betty Magnus, with one vacancy remaining
  4. Arrowhead Library System – Maribeth Miller
  5. Budget/Facilities – Maribeth Miller, David Sowl, with at least one vacancy remaining
  6. Strategic Plan – Diane Lichtenstein, Betty Magnus, with at least one vacancy remaining

Note: One member of the Budget/Facilities committee must serve on the Strategic Plan Committee.

7. Trustee Activities and Upcoming Events –
  - Wisconsin Trustee Training Webinars are taking place the week of August 12 – 16. Each webinar is one hour long and held over the noon hour. Jennifer Laatz will email the registration information to the board members.
8. Motion to Adjourn – David Sowl moved to adjourn. Rachelle Elliott seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Submitted by:  
Jennifer Laatz, Business Manager