



# beloit public library

Beloit Public Library Board of Trustees

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

605 Eclipse Blvd., Beloit, WI 53511

1. Call to order and roll call – President Maribeth Miller called the meeting to order at 4:00PM.  
Members present: Maribeth Miller, Elizabeth Magnus, David Sowl (dep. 5:15), Sherry Blakeley (dep. 4:55), Diane Lichtenstein, Rachelle Elliott, and Angela Moore. Members Absent: Florence Haley and Megan Miller.  
Also present: Library Director Nick Dimassis and Leadership Team Members: Jennifer Laatz, Amy Mitchell, Michael DeVries, Katharine Clark, Jeni Schomber, and Wyatt Ditzler.
2. Approval of the consent agenda – Sowl moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the August 17, 2020 Personnel Committee meeting minutes, the August 19, 2020 Library Board meeting minutes, and the August 24, 2020 Strategic Plan Committee meeting minutes. Elliott seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (7-0)**
3. Public Comment – None.
4. Reports:
  - a. Library Director and BPL Activity Report - Nick Dimassis prepared a written report. In addition to the written report, Dimassis reported on the following:
    - Jeni Schomber, Head of Library Services presented a PowerPoint on professional development for staff and services at Beloit Public Library.
  - b. Arrowhead Library System (ALS) – President Miller reported that the ALS board did not meet yet in September.
  - c. Beloit Public Library Foundation – Sowl reported the Foundation board did not have a quorum at the September meeting. He did state that the \$100,000 donation from Dr. Tom Lang for the recent buildout has been received.
  - d. Friends at Beloit Library (FABL) – Magnus and Elliott reported that the FABL board is starting to accept book donations again and will be quarantining donations for 4 days, the same at library returns. They are seeing fewer volunteers due to COVID. The big booksale is not being held this fall and has not been rescheduled.
5. Committees –
  - a. Budget/Facilities Committee – No report but will be setting a meeting soon to discuss leasing options.
  - b. Personnel Committee – President Miller reported that the committee is meeting again September 24 to start on this year’s director evaluation process.

- c. Strategic Plan Committee – Moore and Magnus reported that there is a lot of energy for the subcommittee of the Inclusive Services Committee.
6. Old Business:
  - a. Meeting Norms – Elliott continued discussions stating that since the board initiated discussions on meeting norms, things have gotten better. The board provided 5 things they see as being priority in maintaining professionalism as a board. 1. Assume positive intentions; 2. Acknowledge and value personal and professional strengths, expertise, judgement, and cultural perspectives; 3. Honest and transparent dialog; 4. Active listening; 5. Ask questions to make informed decisions. Elliott will put into a document for approval at the October Board meeting.
7. New Business:
  - a. Monthly financial report and approval of library and café bills – Sowl moved to approve the payment of the bills on the September 16, 2020 warrant in the amount of \$18,530.74 for the Library and \$2,256.02 for the Blender and the recurring expenses of \$116,549.43 for the Library and \$3,613.54 for the Blender. Elliott seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (6-0).**
8. Trustee Activities and Upcoming Events – President Miller reminded board of the following:
  - a. 9/24 Personnel Committee Meeting
  - b. 10/5 Inclusive Services Committee Meeting
  - c. 10/15 Paradox of being an African American Police Officer Program
  - d. Budget Committee Doodle Poll coming soon.
9. Agenda Review – Sowl inquired about the SDB meeting with Blender feeding students. Dimassis reported that the conversation is back to SDB. Conversations have evolved into Food Trucks and how the Blender can serve as a 3<sup>rd</sup> non-mobile “Food Truck”. Dimassis further reported that he is meeting with Community Action 9/17 to discuss the Transitional Jobs Program in regards to the Blender Café.
10. Motion to Adjourn – Elliott moved to adjourn. Moore seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Submitted by:  
Jennifer Laatz, Business Manager