

Beloit Public Library IDEA Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday January 6, 2021

1. Meeting called to order at 3:31 PM by David Sowl, substitute chair
2. Attendance: David Sowl, Diane Lichtenstein, Betty Magnus, Maribeth Miller, Jeni Schomber, Nick Dimassis, Amy Mitchell, Paul Kopp, Jennifer Laatz, and Ana Jimenez
3. Approval of minutes moved by Schomber, seconded by Sowl. passed unanimously
4. Discussion Items:
  - a. Update Jimenez – Ana Jimenez provided a very thorough and useful update regarding various requests from the Hispanic community, specifically; more Spanish speaking person available for the children’s area, Spanish language films and games that would encourage/facilitate family participation, and computer related classes for the members of the community who are computer literacy lacking, with a special emphasis on monitoring their children’s usage.
  - b. Update Mitchell – Amy Mitchell provided an update on website information.
  - c. Update Dimassis – Nick Dimassis updated us on talks begun with Just Bakery in Madison re: a potential partnership. He felt the need for immediate assistance to the homeless was less urgent than anticipated due to a decline in the number currently frequenting the library. In response to a query regarding provision of photocopies gratis, he observed that staff was authorized to provide same on a case by case basis using their judgement.
5. Action Items:
  - a. Determine focus group questions – we discussed questions for our upcoming community survey regarding library services but were unable to reach a consensus on the number or wording of the questions or their appropriateness for a variety of proposed formats. Thus tabled until next meeting.
  - b. Finalize Facilitator – Also discussed a facilitator for an in-person or virtual focus group regarding the survey but didn’t decide who or whether payment was in order. Decision on this issue also tabled until next meeting. Jimenez suggested that we publish any survey questions in Spanish language local news sources and perhaps offer prizes to stimulate responses.
6. Round Robin – nothing to add
7. Future Agenda Items – Focus group questions and facilitators
8. Next Meeting: TBD
9. Adjournment moved by Schomber, seconded by Sowl. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

Submitted By:  
David Sowl

Beloit Public Library Board of Trustees  
Strategic Plan Committee  
IDEA Sub-Committee  
January 6, 2021, Approved March 3, 2021