



beloit public library

Beloit Public Library Board of Trustees

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

605 Eclipse Blvd., Beloit, WI 53511

1. Call to order and roll call – President Maribeth Miller called the meeting to order at 4:05PM.
Members present: Maribeth Miller, Elizabeth Magnus (arr. 4:15), David Sowl, Sherry Blakeley (dep. 5:00), Diane Lichtenstein, Angela Moore, Megan Miller (arr. 4:10), and Florence Haley (arr. 4:24).
Members absent: Rachelle Elliott
Also present: Library Director Nick Dimassis and Leadership Team Members: Jennifer Laatz, Amy Mitchell, Michael DeVries, Jeni Schomber, Katharine Clark, and Wyatt Ditzler.
2. Approval of the January 20, 2021 Library Board meeting minutes – Blakeley moved to approve the January 20, 2021 Library Board meeting minutes as presented. President Miller seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (5-0).**
3. Public Comment – None.
4. Reports:
 - a. Library Director and BPL Activity Report - Dimassis prepared a written report. Dimassis highlighted on the following:
 - Robin Stuht will be coming to talk to staff on various homeless resources.
 - The picture day sponsored by a grant from American Family Insurance was featured in the Beloit Daily News.
 - Beloit Daily News is also placing an article in the yearbook on how the library has adapted during the pandemic. Watch for the yearbook to come out around the end of March.
 - Have had some good conversations with Carmella Glenn from Just Bakery. We are at the beginning stages of relationship building.
 - WPLC (Wisconsin Public Library Consortium) has added magazines to the available resources on Overdrive/Libby.
 - Drive-up window is now officially open.
 - It is highly recommended that the Board watch the Virtual Badger Talk: “Effective Ways to Reduce Prejudice” with Markus Brauer, available on the BPL Facebook page. This was a program partnership with UW-Connect and Beloit Public Library.
 - We were notified by Stateline Community Foundation that we did not receive the grant that we applied for to help with moving to fine free on

juvenile and YA items. The library will bring a plan forward at the March meeting.

- b. Arrowhead Library System (ALS) – Blakeley reported the new offices are President – Adam Dinnes and Annette Smith as Vice President. Clinton Public Library’s new Library Director is Joseph Langer. The board approved the system annual report and monthly bills.
- c. Beloit Public Library Foundation – Sowl reported the Foundation board did not meet.
- d. Friends at Beloit Library (FABL) – Magnus reported the FABL board did not meet.

5. Committees:

- a. Budget/Facilities Committee – No meeting.
- b. Personnel Committee – No meeting.
- c. Strategic Plan Committee – No meeting. Next meeting March 22nd.
- d. IDEA Sub-Committee – Megan Miller reported that the committee will be meeting again in March. Currently working on facilitators for public forums and questions to ask of the community.

6. Old Business:

- a. Board Recruitment – The board discussed taking a more intentional approach to reflect the community in our board make-up. The personnel committee will take the lead on the recruitment process and bring back to the Library Board.
- b. Board meeting time – President Miller moved to table changing the board meeting time to a future meeting. Sowl seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (8-0).**
- c. Implicit Bias Training for the Board – The board agreed that implicit bias training is important. Because the board will have 3 new members starting in July, the training will be discussed later this year.

7. New Business:

- a. Strategic Plan 2022-2024 – The committee will be meeting to start the process.
- b. 2020 Final Budget Report – Library ended the year with a surplus of \$43,215.08 and the Blender ended the year with a loss of \$2,312.06. Haley moved to approve the 2020 budget reports as presented with the net funds of \$40,903.02 deposited into the Unrestricted Fund Balance. Magnus seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (6-0).**
- c. 2020 Annual Report – The state-required annual report was presented. Haley moved to approve the 2020 Annual Report as presented, including the statement concerning public library system effectiveness indicating that ALS did provide effective leadership and adequately meet the needs of the library.
- d. Monthly financial report and approval of library and café bills – Sowl moved to approve January/February payments in the amount of \$87,749.92 for the Library and \$661.64 for the Blender. Lichtenstein seconded the motion. **Motion Carried (6-0).**

8. Trustee Activities and Upcoming Events – None.

9. Agenda Review – For March meeting: Board Recruitment. Future meeting – Board Meeting Time, Strategic Plan 2022 – 2024.

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“Making a great city even greater.”

10. Motion to Adjourn – Lichtenstein moved to adjourn. Blakeley seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Submitted by:

Jennifer Laatz, Business Manager