

Bethalto Public Library District Board Meeting

August 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Shana Wright at 7:00pm.

Present: Ruby Bryan, Felicia Kohlberg, Patricia Stemmley, Kristy Walker, Shana Wright

Absent: none

Also present: Mary Brewster – Director, Paula Tretter – Assistant Director

Motion 1: It was moved by Walker and seconded by Bryan that the minutes of the meeting of July 8, 2021 be approved as written.

Ayes: Bryan, Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: none

Motion 2: It was moved by Bryan and seconded by Walker that bills in the amount of \$52,604.77 be paid.

Ayes: Bryan, Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: none

REPORTS

The Financial report was presented by Mary Brewster, Director.
The Librarian's report was presented by Mary Brewster. (See File)

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMITTEES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on mask mandate. The Library will follow CDC and IDPH recommendations.

Motion 3: It was moved by Bryan and seconded by Stemmley that Bethalto Public Library District is fully adopting updated CDC masking recommendations, to align with IDPH and CDC recommendations that everyone, including fully vaccinated individuals, wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas with substantial and high transmission. Therefore we are strongly recommending patrons wear masks on the main level, masks are required for all on the kids level, and masks are required for all Bethalto Public Library District staff members, effective immediately.

Ayes: Bryan, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: Kohlberg

Motion 4: It was moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:27pm.
Passed with all ayes.

Communications

- Notice from Grinnell Mutual regarding our commercial property insurance policy
"Currently your policy is endorsed with the Equipment Breakdown Enhancement Endorsement providing protection from losses arising from electrical, mechanical, or pressure related equipment breakdown. This coverage is optional."
- Notice from the Illinois Funds that they are transitioning the fund rating from Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC to Fitch Ratings Inc. along with their Investment Policy Statement.
"This offers access to a greater range of investment options and with them potentially greater rates of return and could result in lower administrative costs that could be passed on to participants."
- Donation from patron of \$100 for the kids' summer reading program.

Director's Report

1. The tentative budget is on display. The public budget hearing will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 6:30pm with the regular monthly board meeting following.
2. Upcoming events
 - Used Book Sale – Saturday, September 25, 2021
 - 3rd Annual IHLS Library Crawl – Monday, September 27 – Sunday October 17, 2021
 - Spooktacular – Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 4:00-6:00pm
3. The summer reading program finished on Friday, July 16, 2021. See the attached sheet for Reading Colors Your World statistics.
4. Completed quarterly report for the Drive-in Wi-Fi @ Bethalto Library grant.
5. Tested and interviewed applicants for the open Clerk position.
6. Began work on the Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR).
7. Began work on two grants available through the Illinois State Library focused on recovery from the pandemic. Priority is on the Library Spaces grant if we cannot finish both. If awarded, grant funded activities begin October 1, 2021.
 - On the Road to Recovery: Transforming Library Spaces – this one is specifically for restoring the library's capacity to operate with clean safe spaces for patrons. I am working with Kathy Clark to choose furniture that is easily cleaned, more flexible and mobile for spacing for social distancing when needed, and convenient for patrons using the Library's Wi-Fi. We especially hope to replace the eight upholstered chairs with new seating.
 - Expanding Digital Inclusion: Transforming Library Services – this one is specifically for devices that circulate to meet patrons' needs. We are looking at hotspots, laptops, webcams, and Launchpads (locked down tablets with preloaded learning activities and games).

8. Insurance policy vs. Bond for Treasurer's position.

From the Illinois Compiled Statutes:

75 ILCS 16/30-45

Duties of Officers

(e) As an alternative to a personal bond on the treasurer, the treasurer may secure for the district an insurance policy or other insurance instrument that provides the district with coverage for negligent or intentional acts by district officials and employees that could result in the loss of district funds. The cost of any such coverage shall be borne by the district.

9. Revision of Board of Trustees Bylaws

From the Illinois Compiled Statutes:

5 ILCS 120/7

In summary - the traditional remote meeting process in the Open Meetings Act allows public bodies to adopt rules to allow a member to participate by video or audio conference when a physical quorum is present at the meeting so long as the member is prevented from physically attending because of: (i) personal illness or disability; (ii) employment purposes or the business of the public body; or (iii) a family or other emergency. The remote member must notify the recording secretary or clerk of his or her physical absence ahead of time, unless impractical, and a majority of the public body then approves allowing the remote member's participation by video or audio conference.