

Bethalto Public Library District Board Meeting

November 11, 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, Kathy Clark – Interior Designer

Motion 1: It was moved by Walker and seconded by Stemmley that the minutes of the meeting of October 14, 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 Wright that bills in the amount of \$27,536.42 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

Motion 3: It was moved by Walker and seconded by Stemmley to approve Ordinance No. 2021-4, Levying and Assessing Property Tax for FY 2021-2022.

Ayes: Bryan, Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: none

Motion 4: It was moved by Wright and seconded by Kohlberg to approve the Illinois Libraries Present Intergovernmental Agreement.

Ayes: Bryan, Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: none

Motion 5: It was moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:26pm.
Passed with all ayes.

Director's Report for October 2021

1. Bethalto Police Officer Cope came to check with us about the condition of our outdoor bookdrop. On Friday, October 22, 2021, a neighbor reported a number of kids hanging out in our parking lot and possibly causing damage. Watching the security recordings, we saw that one boy ran into the bookdrop on the alley and knocked it over. He and another kid immediately righted it. The bookdrop has some scratches in the paint, but no serious damage. Officer Cope said they will be telling this bunch of kids they are not allowed on the Library's property. However, since then he said they are unsure if they can completely warn them off since we are a government building open to the public.

Officer Cope was able to recover the parking lot sign that was stolen and returned it to us on October 31, 2021.

At this point if this bunch of kids' behavior is in any way bad, we will call the non-emergency phone number for the police and have an officer come to deal with them. Several officers have said they are happy to do this.
2. A patron refused masks for herself and her young daughter (over two years old) on the evening of October 25, 2021. She said they don't wear masks. That her daughter is under ten years and she herself has a heart condition. I explained our requirements/rules and that we offer curbside service as an accommodation. She said they need to get library cards because they are new to the area and couldn't do that curbside. I let her know that we could issue new cards curbside. She then began saying that they aren't sick and don't need to wear masks; that we were discriminating, that her daughter's experience was being ruined and we were taking this away from her, that no one in the county enforces masks, and that the Governor's order is a mandate, not a law. I stated our rules repeatedly, let her tell me how this was wrong, and repeated that we do require masks to be in the library. She left angry.
3. Bev Engelke at Illinois Insurance in Bethalto has been unable to find an insurance option to replace the Treasurer's Bond. The Director's & Officers insurance does not cover this and cannot be expanded to do so. They also looked at a Crime policy which would cover criminal acts, but then found this would only be applicable if the Treasurer's position were a paid position. They think the only way to be covered correctly is with a bond.
4. The SHARE Mobile Library App became available to patrons on October 25, 2021. We hope patrons are finding it a useful resource.
5. The final quarterly financial report and the encumbrance report were submitted for the Illinois State Library's Digital Network Access grant for *Drive-in Wi-Fi @ Bethalto Library*. These complete all requirements for this grant.
6. I received a quote from LibraryIQ. This company works with our circulation software and online catalog to offer in-depth analysis of the library's offerings to help strategically allocate the materials budget, from selection through weeding. Their system helps you see where you are reaching the community and where you are not. They are offering an end of year discount on the annual fee from \$8,500 down to \$6,500. They feel you recover much of this cost through saved staff time and better acquisitions that do not waste the materials budget. They demonstrated the system for me and it is wonderful, but pricey for our budget.
7. There is an intergovernmental agreement to sign for participation in Illinois Libraries Present (ILP) for the joint purchasing of library programming events and services. This agreement needs to be approved by the Board of Trustees, signed, and returned by the end of the year.

8. Would the Building Committee meet to review architect firms to work with us on providing plans and specifications for bids for a new library roof. This committee might also review what type of roof they recommend, the ability to add solar panels, etc.
9. For the Illinois Public Library Per Capita Grant due on January 15, 2022:
To be eligible for a per capita grant, a public library shall show that it will either meet or show progress toward meeting the Illinois library standards as most recently adopted by the Illinois Library Association (75 ILCS 10/8.1). A grant applicant with below standard performance levels must raise or improve its performance levels in relation to the standards according to the objectives, time frames and priorities the library shall state in the application and which are consistent with the terms of the plan of service of the system of which it is a member. (23 ILAC 3035.115) [The Library Director and the Board of Trustees shall review the entirety of Serving Our Public 4.0: Standards for Illinois Public Libraries.] To complete this application, refer to the checklist at the conclusion of each chapter.

Please review

- Chapters 1-5 for the October 14, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting
- Chapters 6-10 for the November 11, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting
- Chapters 11-13 for the December 9, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting

October Programming Report

- The 3rd Annual Library Crawl was a very good experience. Please see the enclosed sheet for statistics about the Crawl. This year our staff members took on more work, creating an Official Passport with more libraries than ever before and also adding a new feature, the Local Eateries and Attractions information booklet. Also this year, I received a request for information about how to do a Library Crawl from a public library in Indiana. One of their staff members heard about our event and is looking into possibly creating a Crawl in their region.
- Spooktacular on Saturday, October 30, 2021 was an enjoyable event! We estimate 160 participants. Riverbend Axe Throwing did a good job of taking care of this activity. The kids seemed to enjoy playing the ten games for candy and tickets, and there was definitely some serious decision making going on when exchanging tickets in at the prize tables. We handed out free drinks and chips and also latex gloves stuffed with candy for the adults. During the second hour there seemed to always be a line waiting for a trip through our Twisted Tales Haunted House. Many volunteers helped the night of the event, and all of our staff members worked hard to create everything for this event throughout the month of October – scary flowers, a witch's oven, decorated prize boxes, a Frankenstein nose pick, etc.! It was great to see so many families enjoying the evening.
- The Book Club is still going strong in its 21st year! This month's pick was a nonfiction read which many members did not especially enjoy. Even so, we had eleven (11) adults at the meeting.
- Twenty-four (24) Interactive Movie Kits for *The Goonies* went home – probably with more adults feeling nostalgic than kids.
- No *Six of Crows* book boxes for teens were taken. It will still be available in November. It is very hard to reach this age group of grades 7 to 12. I think our next book box might be for grades 4 to 6, to see if we have better success.
- Forty-three (43) Storytime Kits with dream catcher crafts for younger kids were taken. This month thirteen (13) book quiz forms were returned for the \$10 McDonalds gift card prize drawing by kids who read the Storytime books. (Only three (3) book quiz forms were returned last month.)
- Activities in the Library are still popular, with 60 kids completing the Halloween Hunt in the Kids Space in October. One lucky kid will win a \$10 Dairy Queen gift card prize.