

# Bethalto Public Library District Board Meeting

October 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Shana Wright at 7:01pm.

Present: Felicia Kohlberg, Patricia Stemmley, Kristy Walker (arrived at 7:08pm), Shana Wright

Absent: Ruby Bryan

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

Motion 1: It was moved by Wright and seconded by Stemmley that the minutes of the meetings of September 9, 2021 be approved as written.

Ayes: Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: Bryan

Motion 2: It was moved by Kohlberg and seconded by Stemmley that bills in the amount of \$28,787.53 be paid.

Ayes: Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: Bryan

## 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

Discussed the Pandemic Leave Policy.

Motion 3: It was moved by Walker and seconded by Kohlberg to approve the Pandemic Leave Policy.

Ayes: Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: Bryan

Motion 4: It was moved by Wright and seconded by Stemmley to adopt the amended Board of Trustees Bylaws.

Ayes: Kohlberg, Stemmley, Walker, Wright

Nays: none

Absent: Bryan

Motion 5: It was moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:36pm.  
Passed with all ayes.

## Communications

- ✓ Letter from Kiwanis of Wood River Township with a check for \$1,000.00 as a donation towards our children's reading programs.
- ✓ Letter from the Illinois State Library that our Tech Smart Tools proposal was not recommended for funding.
- ✓ Letter from the Illinois State Library to award a grant for \$25,000.00 for the Health Smart Spaces proposal. Yay!
- ✓ Card from library patron.

## Director's Report

1. Upcoming events/take home bags
  - Spooktacular – Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 4:00-6:00pm
  - The Goonies Interactive Movie Bags
  - Six of Crows Teen Book Bags
  - Dream Catcher Kids Story Bags
2. On August 30, 2021 we began requiring masks be worn in the library building due to the mandate from Governor Pritzker on August 26, 2021. There have been more issues in recent weeks with enforcing our mask requirement.
  - Staff are having to remind both adults and children to keep their mask on the entire time they are in the building – some of these are regular patrons who simply will not do so unless told repeatedly.
  - A group of young people (ages 12-14? with a younger sibling) have become a problem
    - Sneaking in to avoid being told to wear a mask
    - Asking for a mask at the circulation desk, but then never putting in on
    - Shredding their mask and littering outside, then sometimes coming back in and asking for another mask
    - Cussing at staff who tell them to leave due to not wearing their mask
3. On September 22, 2021 one of the "Library Parking Only" signs was stolen from Library property. This was noticed on October 7<sup>th</sup> and the security camera system was used to determine that the troublesome group of young people mentioned above had stolen the sign.
4. On the evening of October 8, 2021 a neighbor called the police to report vandalism at the Library. The three windows on the north wall (looking out at the main parking lot) had their outer panes of glass broken. The police called me and I responded that night. They thought they knew who had done the damage. I was able to bring up the security camera footage so they could see the vandalism take place and identify the two children who had done it. I agreed the library would press charges. They left to go speak to one of the families involved. This child is the younger sibling of the group of troublesome young people mentioned above.
5. Pandemic Leave Policy –  
In May 2021 when vaccine shots were widely available, I recommended ending the practice of paying staff members while off for COVID-19 quarantine or illness since the vaccine would protect them from these circumstances. Now we have the Delta variant which even vaccinated individuals can become sick from or be required to quarantine if exposed to it. Therefore, I would like to recommend the policy included in this agenda packet.

6. Offer Food for Fines again – during the month of November? Or in January 2022 with a “start with a clean your slate” theme?
  - Peanut butter \$5.00 for 16oz, \$10 for 40oz
  - Box dinners \$3.00
  - Canned goods \$1.50 for vegetables, \$3.00 for meat
7. Signed the Library up to become a member of Illinois Libraries Present (ILP) for the pilot period of January to June 2022. ILP will provide high quality online events for communities throughout the state, along with marketing materials and graphics to advertise them. The Fee is \$75.00 for our library.
8. Completed the Digital Network Access Grant with a purchase of staff t-shirts to advertise the Drive-in Wi-Fi service.
9. The Used Book Sale on September 25, 2021 brought in \$704.80.
10. The SHARE Mobile Library App will be released on October 25, 2021. Yay! Our library's customization will come later.
11. The Budget Committee should meet two times before the November 2021 Board Meeting to plan the Levy Ordinance.
12. 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