

BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Noon

In compliance with the COVID-19 executive orders, the Bloomington Public Library's meeting took place virtually, via Zoom.

William C. Wetzel Reading Room  
205 E. Olive Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

Minutes

I. Call to Order

President Mendiola called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Members Present via Zoom: Wilma Bates, Rich Beal, Patsy Bowles (arrived at 12:10 p.m.), Blake Mier, Van Miller (arrived at 12:05 p.m.), Matt Watchinski, Bill Wetzel, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Zimmerman, Eliazar Mendiola

Members Absent: Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Julian Westerhout

Others Present via Zoom: Jeanne Hamilton, Kathy Jeakins, Caprice Prochnow

II. Introductions

There were no introductions.

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Communication

V. Approval of Minutes

A. November 11, 2020

Rich Beal moved, Bill Wetzel seconded, to approve the minutes from the November 11, 2020, meeting.

Ayes: Wilma Bates, Rich Beal, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Bill Wetzel, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Zimmerman, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Patsy Bowles, Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Julian Westerhout

VI. Treasurer's Report

A. Approval of Financial Reports

Bill Zimmerman moved, Bill Wetzel seconded, to approve the financial report.

Ayes: Wilma Bates, Rich Beal, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Bill Wetzel, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Zimmerman, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Patsy Bowles, Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Julian Westerhout

VII. Report from the Bloomington Public Library

Jeanne Hamilton stated that as long as the county's COVID-19 metrics do not move backward, the library building will be reopening to the public on Monday.

Jeanne shared that at the December Board meeting, the Board approved negotiating a contract with the architects for the whole library expansion project.

She entertained questions.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

IX. New Business

A. Appoint Nominating Committee

President Mendiola asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee that will present a Slate of Officers at the Annual meeting in May. The Committee will consist of Rich Beal, Patsy Bowles, and Wilma Bates.

President Mendiola stated that there has been discussion about moving away from the yearly Officer appointments and moving to every other year, which would require the BPL Board to approve the change to the bylaws. He asked the members for their thoughts on this. The consensus was to move to two-year Officer appointments.

B. Approve the purchase of \$2,000 of Local History, History, and Economics materials using the Mischler Trust Funds

Jeanne reviewed the history of the Mischler Trust Fund and shared that this is the third year for this to be approved. She went on to say, that the \$2,000 pays for the whole local history collection for the year.

C. Approve the Purchase of one-year subscription to the Fold3 (a collection of detailed online military records for genealogy research) for up to \$3,000 using the Mischler Trust Funds

Jeanne shared that the numbers for this electronic resource continue to rise, especially during this time of COVID.

Items IX.B and C were combined for a motion.

Bill Wetzel moved, Patsy Bowles seconded, to approve the purchase of \$2,000 of Local History, History, and Economics material and purchase of one-year subscription to the Fold3 for up to \$3,000, using the Mischler Trust Fund.

Ayes: Wilma Bates, Rich Beal, Patsy Bowles, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Bill Wetzel, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Zimmerman, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Julian Westerhout

The motion carried unanimously.

D. Approve Tuition Payment from Stubblefield Trust

Jeanne reviewed the background on the Stubblefield Trust with the members. She shared that this request is tuition is for a staff member that was part-time for 5 years and has been full-time for over a year now. She went on to say that the last tuition request was in 2019.

Rich Beal moved, Mary Ann Webb seconded, to approve tuition payment from Stubblefield Trust.

Ayes: Wilma Bates, Rich Beal, Patsy Bowles, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Bill Wetzel, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Zimmerman, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Julian Westerhout

The motion carried unanimously.

E. Discuss the Library Building Capital Campaign

Jeanne stated that the expansion being discussed is a \$20,770,377.00 project. The library has committed to 5.8 million or 28% of the project, with the remainder being funded by a bond.

Jeanne stated that this is a perfect fit for the Foundation and its mission to support. She went on to say that there are a few ways that the Foundation may offer its support: by considering an organizational contribution, individual contributions, and donor prospects. Jeanne shared that she will be sending out a survey to the members as to whether potential donors are known and whether there would be willingness to help library staff make that connection. She went on to say, that if one would rather send this information in an email, that is fine as well.

Jeanne stated that as we move forward with fundraising, it is important to know what committed funds that are available early on. She asked for some discussion as to what the Foundation thought that they would like to commit to the library. There was some discussion about monies that could possibly be used from what funds.

Jeanne shared that Rhonda Massie, Marketing Manager has agreed to assist Jeanne with the Capital Campaign for this project. A part-timer will be assisting Rhonda with more of the daily tasks and web design, so that Rhonda can devote her time to this project. She went on to say that she and Rhonda met with Wilma Bates, Van Miller and Alicia Whitworth, as their day jobs are in the fundraising domain. They were able to gather a lot of great information from them.

The idea of a committee to look at the funds from the past 5 – 10 years was posed, and Mary Ann Webb, Wilma Bates, and Blake Mier volunteered to be on this committee. Both Bill Wetzel and Van Miller offered their assistance as well, if needed.

There was some discussion about the possibility of state and federal grants, which usually is given on a “need basis”, and this library is about in the middle of the pack. Jeanne stated that she appreciated the discussion today, along with the support shown today and throughout the years from the Foundation Board.

#### X. Adjournment

Patsy Bowles moved, Bill Wetzel seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Wilma Bates, Rich Beal, Patsy Bowles, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Bill Wetzel, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Zimmerman, Eliazar Mendiola

Nays: None

Absent: Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Julian Westerhout

The motion carried unanimously.

President Mendiola adjourned the meeting at 12:44 p.m.