

BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
5:30 p.m.

Osborn Room
Bloomington Police Department
305 S. East Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

Minutes

- I. Call to Order
President Westerhout called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
Trustees Present: Alicia Henry, Dianne Hollister, Susan Mohr, Catrina Parker, Matt Watchinski, Julian Westerhout

Trustees Absent: John Argenziano, Van Miller, Alicia Whitworth

Others Present: Jeanne Hamilton, Kathy Jeakins, Caprice Prochnow
- III. Introduction of Public
There were no public present.
- IV. Public Comment
There were no public comments.
- V. President's Report
President Westerhout noted that Jeanne's ILA report was included with her Director's Report. He went on to thank Jeanne for her service as the ILA President and elevating the Bloomington Public Library.
President Westerhout stated that he is so impressed with the amount of outreach activities still going on and the expanding of electronic resources while construction is happening. President Westerhout thanked all staff for their work during this construction period.
- VI. Director's Report
Director Hamilton pointed out the Circulation/Outreach report that the bookmobile attendance increased by 3,699 for a total of 9,766 in 2022 (over 2021). Along with this, the checkouts increased by 3,481 for a total of 32,179 checkouts. Jeanne shared that a staff person has been working with Golden Prairie to do some research on the bookmobile numbers, since this is one of their main primary access points.
Jeanne shared that we have been renting a vehicle since the library van was totaled after the flooding. The thought was to try out a vehicle to see if it was suitable for use for techmobile purposes before buying. Jeanne stated that the partnership with Rivian on a van is likely years down the road as they have so many pre-ordered vehicles in their production queue. She went on to say that the department managers will be discussing whether to continue to

rent or purchase a vehicle. If it is decided that it is time to buy, then eventually it will come before the Board for approval.

VII. Fiscal Report Presentation

Kathy Jeakins, Business Manager, reported that the revenues and expenditures should be at 67% through the end of December. She went on to say that revenues are doing quite well right now and that we are a little underspent in expenditures. She entertained questions.

VIII. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Minutes of December 20, 2022 Regular BPL Board Meeting

B. Approve Bills List of December 2022

DIANNE HOLLISTER MOVED, CATRINA PARKER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 20, 2022 MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IX. Approval Items

A. Approve Waiving the Competitive Bid Process for Property/Casualty Insurance

Jeanne shared that this had been discussed at a previous Board Meeting and at that time it was decided to stick with this insurance for this next year. At the end of next year, when the library expansion is complete, we will go through the competitive bid process. Jeanne stated that there was a \$190 decrease in the price of the insurance this year.

MATT WATCHINSKI MOVED, DIANNE HOLLISTER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THAT THE COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS BE WAIVED, AND THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF PROPERTY, LIABILITY, VEHICLE, UMBRELLA, AND DIRECTOR'S AND OFFICER'S INSURANCE PACKAGES THROUGH THE LIBRARIES OF ILLINOIS RISK AGENCY (LIRA) DUE JANUARY 31, 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$41,388.10.

Ayes: Alicia Henry, Dianne Hollister, Susan Mohr, Catrina Parker, Matt Watchinski, Julian Westerhout

Nays: None

Absent: John Argenziano, Van Miller, Alicia Whitworth

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

X. Discussion Items

A. Library Expansion and Fundraising

Jeanne shared that fundraising is moving along at a steady pace. She went on to say that Mary Ann Webb, Fundraising Chair, had shared that this time of year, is a good time to ask banks for donations. She will be reaching out to some of the banks that she has worked with.

Jeanne shared that State Farm made changes in its matching program, so they no longer match retiree matches. With the advance notice, we did have a bit of an uptick in retiree matches at the end of the year.

Jeanne shared that construction is moving right along. The steel is here and starting to be erected. The framing and window glass have been installed on the SW side in the new Children's department.

Jeanne stated that last week, the request for furniture and moving bids went out. By the next Board meeting, there should be bids to approve. Jeanne showed a PowerPoint that contained the furniture, colors and wall fabrics that were selected for the newly expanded and remodeled building.

XI. Comments from Trustees

Dianne Hollister shared that John Fischer was selected as the new Director of Normal Public Library. She went on to say that she has met him and stated that he is very kind and genuine. Dianne asked about a time capsule for this library and Jeanne shared that there will be one, but it will be installed somewhere in the building.

XII. Adjournment

SUSAN MOHR MOVED, MATT WATCHINSKI SECONDED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

President Westerhout adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.