

BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Noon

In compliance with the COVID-19 executive orders, the Bloomington Public Library's meeting took place virtually, via ZOOM as well as in the William C. Wetzel Room at the Bloomington Public Library.

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 12:02 p.m.

Members Present via Zoom: Rich Beal, Russel Francois (arrived at 12:03 p.m.), Dan Irvin, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Wetzel, Eliazar Mendiola

Members Absent: Wilma Bates, Patsy Bowles, Julian Westerhout, Bill Zimmerman

Others Present via Zoom: Kathy Jeakins

Other Present in Person: Jeanne Hamilton, Caprice Prochnow

II. Introductions

There were no introductions.

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Communication

Jeanne shared that the Dr. Seuss Foundation, recently decided to stop publishing six of their titles, that had some racist imagery included. She went on to say, that earlier this week, the Pantagraph interviewed a Children's Librarian, and she did a great job with it. Jeanne stated that since it is the publisher's decision to cease publication, the library really does not have any mandates. She went on to say, that the library does want to be sensitive to what this community wants. The materials are currently being reviewed, as well as an internal audit. Along with this the collection is regularly weeded for space and removing outdated materials. Jeanne stated that it is possible, that some of this does meet the criteria for naturally getting weeded anyway. She went on to say that all of

the materials are currently checked out and once they are returned, the committee that was formed this morning, will be reviewing the materials.

She entertained questions.

President Mendiola shared that he has a schedule conflict for the next meeting in May and asked if there is another day that would be agreeable to the Board Members. He will send out a poll for a new meeting date.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. January 13, 2021

Bill Wetzel moved, Mary Ann Webb seconded, to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2021 meeting.

Ayes: Rich Beal, Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Wetzel, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Wilma Bates, Patsy Bowles, Julian Westerhout, Bill Zimmerman

The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Treasurer's Report

A. Approval of Financial Reports

Rich Beal moved, Van Miller seconded, to approve the financial reports.

Ayes: Rich Beal, Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Wetzel, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Wilma Bates, Patsy Bowles, Julian Westerhout, Bill Zimmerman

The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Report from the Bloomington Public Library

Jeanne Hamilton reported that there has been an uptick in library visitors with the warmer weather. She went on to say that the reopening was a few months ago, and things are going fairly well.

Jeanne shared that library workers are not listed anywhere for vaccination eligibility, so this is open for interpretation. Some counties in Illinois are including library staff, others are not, which includes McLean County. She went on to say that Sangamon County in Springfield is interpreting that library workers are eligible, and they have a statewide

site. Some BPL staff have taken advantage of this, and some staff have signed up to receive the vaccination.  
She entertained questions.

VIII. Old Business

A. Discuss the Library Building Expansion and Capital Campaign

President Mendiola shared that the committee is still studying the financials, and that all of the members have a firm grasp of where the Foundation is financially, prior to making any decisions on a donation. He went on to say, that the hope is that this can be discussed at the May meeting.

Jeanne Hamilton shared that the management team has really been working hard to dive into the details. She went on to say that this is an exciting part, in deciding what works well together, what things should be next to each other, but not to the level of what piece of furniture goes where.

Jeanne shared that the BPL Board will have a workshop next week with the architect team to talk about some design elements.

Jeanne stated that Rhonda Massie, Marketing Manager has taken on the fundraising component, and today, she actually is at a workshop at the Indiana University Philanthropy School. Along with this, she and Rhonda have been doing some groundwork on launching the capital campaign.

Jeanne stated that there should be more definite architectural plans by May, and she can share these at the meeting, as well as, having them available for the Board members to stop by and look at any time.

She entertained questions.

IX. New Business

A. Approve Summer Reading Donation

Jeanne Hamilton shared the plans for Summer Reading program with the Board, that includes more at home or virtual activities, along with more physical prizes.

Rich Beal moved, Bill Wetzel seconded, to approve Summer Reading Donation in the amount of \$18,000.00.

Ayes: Rich Beal, Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Blake Mier, Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Mary Ann Webb, Bill Wetzel, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Wilma Bates, Patsy Bowles, Julian Westerhout, Bill Zimmerman

The motion carried unanimously.

X. Adjournment

Moved, seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Rich Beal, Russel Francois, Dan Irvin, Blake Mier,  
Van Miller, Matt Watchinski, Mary Ann Webb, Bill  
Wetzel, Eliazar Mendiola

Nayes: None

Absent: Wilma Bates, Patsy Bowles, Julian Westerhout, Bill  
Zimmerman

The motion carried unanimously.

President Mendiola adjourned the meeting at 12:34 p.m.