

Bath Township Public Library

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

Present: (Board Members) Sue Garrity, Lynn Bergen, Larry Fewins-Bliss
Ken Jensen, Theresa Kidd, Audrey Barton
(Library Director & Staff) Kristie Reynolds

Absent: none

Public Present: Joana Bancroft

Next meeting: Wednesday August 15, 2023 @ 6:00pm

I. Regular Business

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm
- b. Moment of civic reflection.
- c. Audrey **motions** to approve the agenda with the addition of New Business item c.: State Librarian Excellence Award, Larry supports, all in favor.
- d. Public comment: none
- e. Disclosures of conflict of interest: none
- f. Larry **motions** to approve the minutes. Lynn supports, all in favor.

II. Financial Report

Lynn confidently reports that the checking and savings accounts are healthy, and on track. The library anticipates about \$4,000 in grants to arrive shortly, as well as penal fines money. The official report for July and August will be presented at the August meeting.

Sue asks that the board reserve voting until the official reports are presented, next month.

III. Director Report

Please see the full Director's Report in July meeting packet.

The library is fully staffed, and all is operating well. Welcome to Tammy, the newest staff member at BTPL! The new computer program, Atrium, will debut in mid-August. Staff will undergo training for working with this program, and also Mid-Michigan Autism will provide training for staff

regarding neurodivergent awareness and practical skills when helping those who cannot communicate or are dysregulated. BTPL plans to begin neurodivergent-friendly events at the library in the fall, and become a safe place for neurodivergent people in the community. A grant from Iconic America has been secured by Joana, which will result in a special screening event of the PBS documentary at BTPL.

The library has been busy this summer, full of creativity and fun art-based events. The Summer Reading and craft events have been very popular. Statistically, the library's number of patrons continues to increase, as does the library's offerings. Currently, there are three weekly story times at the library, including events at local park in partnership with RESA. Community outreach includes a librarian visiting local preschools, representation at the weekly Bath Twp Farmer's Market, and attending Meet Up and Eat Up events. BTPL also tends a plot at the community garden, and attends many other events. Safe Routes to School continues to be a success, especially as back-to-school season approaches. In June, Joana led outreach with local veterans at the American Legion and hopes to strengthen the relationship between the Legion and the library.

The software transition from Apollo to Atrium has gone smoothly so far. Kristie's work with state-level boards and groups keeps her busy, as she helps to make positive progress throughout Michigan. Plans for improved signage are slow to progress, as we wait for responses from the sign company. The piano repairs are going well, and soon it will be back in fine working order.

IV. Unfinished Business – Items for Discussion

- a. Options for forming a District Library (as per the Strategic Plan) - this topic will be discussed at the August meeting, instead.

V. Unfinished Business – Items for Action

- a. .

VI. New Business - Items for Discussion

- a. Performance Review of Director – Board members are asked to submit reviews to Sue before the August Board meeting, either on paper or virtually. Don't hesitate to ask clarifying questions to Kristie before or during the process. The original job description for the Director position is included in the July meeting packet.
- b. Notification of Absence; backup for Secretary. Reminder that there is a scheduled meeting December 13, 2023.
- c. State Librarian Excellence Award – Kristie brought to the Board's attention that BTPL would be a good candidate for this annual award. In these last five years, our library has grown rapidly and brought so much goodness to the community. The winner will be announced at the MLA conference in October.

VII. Items for Action

- a. .

VIII. Closing

- a. Public Comment: none
- b. Board Member Comments: none
- c. Audrey **motions** to adjourn the meeting at 6:50. Ken seconds, all in favor.

(Minutes recorded by Audrey Barton, Secretary)