

Minutes of the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library Board of Directors

Location: BV MPL Missouri River Room; 515 North Fifth Street

Present: Library Board Members: Mike LaLonde, President; Dianna Kindseth, Vice President; Justin Hughes, and Sue Sorlie

Also Present: Christine Kujawa, Library Director; Elizabeth Jacobs, Assistant Library Director; Bea Kaiser, Administrative Office Manager; and Library Board Member Mike Fladeland via Zoom

The June 16, 2023 Board meeting was called to order by M. LaLonde, President, at 12:02 p.m.

The May 25 minutes had been mailed out in advance. M. Fladeland moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by D. Kindseth. Motion carried.

The vendor invoices for June 2023, along with the May financial reports had been mailed out in advance. Following discussion, M. Fladeland moved to approve the June 2023 vendor invoices. Seconded by J. Hughes. Motion carried. Following discussion, M. Fladeland moved to accept the May financial reports. Seconded by S. Sorlie. Motion carried.

2023-2024 Election of Officers:

Following discussion, J. Hughes moved to approve D. Kindseth for the position of President, which serves as the designated municipal representative in accordance with NDCC 40-38.03 to ensure qualification for State Aid to Public Libraries funding as outlined in 54-24.2-01, and M. Fladeland for the position of Vice President. Seconded by S. Sorlie. Motion carried.

In the Director's report C. Kujawa reported:

- Roof/water issues-
 - The first phase of interior work was completed by Arrow Service Team on June 7. They will return June 21 to review and inventory what is needed for phase 2, followed by scheduling the work.
- Collection Development Policy Update-
 - A webinar on censorship, presented by well-known intellectual freedom advocate Jamie LaRue, led to internal discussions regarding modifying the Request for Reconsideration procedure. He recommended a reconsideration committee made up of librarians and library administrators to consider requests as a group. This would encourage more staff to take part in the process and provide input. If the applicant disagrees with the decision of the committee, they may request that it be reviewed by the Library Director, and if requested beyond that review, to the Library Board of Trustees.
 - Other public libraries are sharing suggestions, reviewed by their City Attorneys, in a proactive effort for smooth transition.

- Personnel updates-
 - Alison Hiatt, currently working in the Burleigh County Library department, has been hired as the Head of Technical Services. Her vacancy has been advertised.
 - Candidates for the Technology Manager position will be interviewed later this month.
- Budget Committee schedules-
 - County: June 19 from 1-4 p.m. C. Kujawa, D. Kindseth, and M. LaLonde will attend.
 - City: June 20 from 4-4:30 p.m. C. Kujawa and M. Fladeland will attend.
- Other-
 - C. Kujawa and S. Sorlie are working to secure a large, permanent art piece by Walter Piehl, he'll be coming next week to further discuss the project.
 - C. Kujawa contacted Myhre Concrete Design, Inc. to announce that their bid was accepted and request scheduling. They will advise as it approaches, but it should be the end of summer or early fall this year.

For the Bismarck Library Foundation, Inc., C. Kujawa reported:

- The Art of Books event netted approximately \$4,000.
- Discussion continued from the presentation by Ann Crews Melton of the Consensus Council regarding best board practices. Bylaws were discussed with plans to feature various topics at future meetings.
- Goals on financial report literacy include building confidence on interpreting the data.
- Summer reading received an additional \$2,000 donation from the Tom and Frances Leach Foundation, Inc.

For the Friends of the Library (FOL), E. Jacobs reported:

- A youth book sale held in conjunction with the summer reading kick-off on June 2 netted \$1,600. Each youth participant received a coupon for a free book at the sale.
- An outdoor book sale will be held on the library plaza on July 15.
- Donations continue to be sorted, and preparations made for the annual fall book sale.

The regular Board meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bea Kaiser
Administrative Office Manager

Christine Kujawa
Library Director