



Meeting Minutes

Library Board

Monday, October 5, 2020

5:00 PM

La Crosse Main Library - Video Conference

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Kathy Ivey called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Kathy Ivey, Katie Bittner, Cat Ellingson, Shelley Hay, Araysa Simpson, Keonte Turner, Gary Padesky (5:40pm)

Absent: Sue Anglehart, Jodi Ehrenberger

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction of New Library Board Member, Keonte Turner

Shanneon introduced Keonte and welcomed him to the Board. Keonte shared some background and noted various boards and several community groups he's involved in. Members of the library board then introduced themselves.

2. Review of Timeline for Offering Browsing Service

Shanneon noted very few dates on the timeline, and that the library is still providing the same services: computer use, materials holds and checkouts, and curbside service if requested. Staff are getting questions and push-back regarding browsing, so she also created some talking points:

- *There are many more active cases in the City of La Crosse than in the surrounding communities.*
- *We have a much higher concentration of students (the fastest growing population testing positive) and unsheltered people (currently facing a challenging outbreak) than do our surrounding communities.*
- *We have a larger volume of people in our building than County libraries.*
- *With recent surge, the current recommendation limits our capacity to 25%.*

Shanneon stressed that safety is the priority, and that we ARE open - just not in the same capacity. Management is planning the next phase and would like to see two weeks of consistent metrics before browsing services begin. Shanneon will email talking points to the Board. The Board thanked Shanneon and staff for the library's phenomenal virtual programming.

3. Library Director's Evaluation Process

The evaluation form was discussed, as well as the history of the evaluation process. Shanneon noted that even though the Director's Hospitality fund is tied to the evaluation, it does not need to happen this year. However, if the Board decides to delay the evaluation, this should be noted in the minutes. Shanneon explained that while alternate staff evaluation methods are being done, the usual comprehensive evaluations are being postponed this year due to limitations on time due to furloughing, as well as there being no step increases attached to them. After much discussion the Board felt strongly that a director evaluation should be done, especially as it's Shanneon's first year, and in light of COVID. They also felt the evaluation form should be reviewed and updated after Shanneon's evaluation. Last year's evaluation form was located and will be sent to the Board. A motion will be brought to next week's meeting that Shanneon's evaluation will take place during the November Board meeting.

Adjournment

Kathy Ivey adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 6:05 p.m.