



Meeting Minutes

Library Board

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

5:00 PM

La Crosse Main Library
Auditorium (Lower Level)

Agenda

1. Call to Order

PRESENT:

Sue Anglehart, Kathy Ivey, Katie Bittner, Jodi Ehrenberger, Aaron Engel, Shelley Hay, Mac Kiel, Bryan Morris, Araysa Simpson

The Chair, Ms. Anglehart, called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes from Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2021.

(Aaron Engel / Kathy Ivey) Carried

3. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes

Motion to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 5, 2021.

(Aaron Engel / Jodi Ehrenberger) Carried

4. Approval of Bills & Financial Reports

Ms. Grant noted that staffing costs are currently split between four categories. Report formatting will be improved next year, with these costs collapsed into one category.

Motion to approve the bills and financial reports for September 2021.

(Jodi Ehrenberger / Katie Bittner) Carried

5. Department Presentation – Programming & Outreach, Barry McKnight

Barry McKnight provided an overview of the Programming Department and its main components, outreach and instruction. Additional areas include grants, galleries, fundraising, volunteers, and social media. He praised the flexibility and resilience of library staff in providing hybrid programming throughout the pandemic.

6. Introduction of Mayor Mitch Reynolds

Ms. Grant welcomed Mayor Reynolds, who introduced himself to the Board.

7. Reports

7.1 Director's Report

7.11 Vacancy Report

After 21 years of service, Circulation Assistant Chao Vue is relocating out of state, her last day will be October 13 leaving a 29-hour position vacancy.

7.12 Service Updates

Many organizations world-wide experienced internet connectivity problems due to encryption services. Internet service was interrupted throughout WRLS, with lingering difficulty on some sites due to firewall access. WRLS IT helped resolve the issue.

7.13 Staff Development

IT Manager Danny Whitmore and IT Specialist Chris Parnell attended the Governor's Cybersecurity Summit on October 4 and 5 which focused on sharing knowledge and finding new ways to protect the library's digital infrastructure.

The first of two all staff training half days was on October 7 and featured training by the Diversity Institute. Part two of this training will occur on November 5. Several sessions were presented by managers and staff. The Washburn Board funded the fantastic speaker from the Diversity Institute.

7.14 Monthly Programming Highlights

A lot is happening even with the pause of in-person programming for those under 12, including many programs on Saturdays. The family event Drive-In Bingo was so successful that the youth team will be offering another round. Early Literacy Librarian Brooke Newberry is coordinating programming for Afghan refugee youth at Fort McCoy. Also, in direct partnership with La Crosse Schools, "400 in 4K" was introduced with the goal of each 4-year-old kindergarten classroom to read 400 books during their school year.

7.15 2022 Operating Budget Process Update

The Board of Estimates (BOE) met October 11th. Since the September BOE meeting, adjustments were made in some City department requests, however the library was not asked to make any changes. A reduced proposed budget was presented and will be submitted to the full council with another option regarding opting out of the Expenditure Restraint Program. Utilization of ARPA spending to restore library positions has not been finalized, but there were comments from the BOE committee supporting this usage.

7.2 Committee of the Whole Report

7.21 Holds Pick Up Policy Approval

*Motion to approve the updated Holds Pick Up Policy.
(Araysa Simpson / Jodi Ehrenberger) Carried*

7.22 *Check Out Limit Approval*

*Motion to approve the updated Check Out Limit Policy.
(Kathy Ivey / Aaron Engel) Carried*

7.23 *Shelving Option Approval*

*Motion to approve mobile shelving and flooring with funds from Capital Budget and 2020 Carryover.
(Jodi Ehrenberger / Araysa Simpson) Carried*

7.24 *System Resource Library Contract Approval*

*Motion to approve the 2022 System Resource Library Contract.
(Jodi Ehrenberger / Aaron Engel) Carried*

8. Old Business

None.

9. Public Comment / Other

None.

10. Topics for Future Meetings

10.1 Trust Point Manager, Regina Siegel, will be attending the November 9 Board meeting.

10.2 Library hours for 2022 will be discussed at the November COW meeting.

11. Adjournment

Time: 6:03 p.m.

Motion to adjourn.
(Jodi Ehrenberger / Aaron Engel) Carried