

Minutes
Bartholomew County Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 10, 2021
Board Meeting 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Call to Order

By order and permission of the Governor, the meeting was held by virtual attendance (Zoom). The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by President Gron.

Present via Zoom: Monta Frazier, Gary Gron, Laura Hack, Vern Jorck, Stephen Shipley, Billie Whitted, and Mike Wilkerson. Library staff: Jason Hatton, Director; Angela Eck, Assistant Director; Michelle Williams, Business Services Coordinator; Lindsey Bailey, Children Services Manager. Mike McIver, Attorney.

Absent: None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 12, 2021 board meeting were reviewed. Jorck moved and Wilkerson seconded approval of the April 12, 2021 board meeting minutes as presented. The Board was polled and all answered Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report and Approval of Claims

A. Claims 257 through 330 in the amount of \$304,926.81 were reviewed. Hatton made note of the following claims: Claims 277 – 279 are net zero entries to pay items out of the COVID grant we received. Claim 299 to InfoExpress is for delivery service between libraries, used primarily for Inter Library Loans. Claim 323 to YES Cinema is for screening of *It Began with Bartholomew* and for the facility fee for the Manhattan Short Film Festival. Jorck asked about the COVID relief funds that the county will receive and if the library would be included in any of that. Hatton answered that he had contacted Bartholomew County Auditor Pia O'Connor regarding the money, but had not yet received any response. He said he had also emailed the City of Columbus and was told his question would be "passed up the chain", but again, he has not yet received any other response. He added that the State Library has additional money, approximately \$3.4 million, to disburse. We may receive funds from all three or none, we just don't know yet. Whitted moved and Frazier seconded approval to pay Claims 257 through 330 in the amount of \$304,926.81. The Board was polled and all answered Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Action Items

A. Electronic Meeting Policy and Bylaws Amendment. Hatton reported that approval for Zoom meetings could end by the end of May. He said that legislation did

pass that allows for some means of electronic participation, but there were limits. He referred to the proposed Electronic Participation Policy provided to the Board members, making note of a few provisions in the policy. He said that at least four members must be present in-person, meaning we must have a quorum on site to proceed. He pointed out that members must notify the Director and the Board President if they intend to appear virtually. He also noted that there are some caveats where electronic participation is not permitted and that there are specific requirements for recordkeeping. He suggested amending the Bylaws to reflect the specific language. Gron asked for a motion regarding the policy. Wilkerson moved and Frazier seconded to adopt the Electronic Meeting Policy as presented. The Board was polled and all answered Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

A. Children Services Manager – Lindsey Bailey. Bailey said that Summer Reading is quickly approaching. She said everyone is excited that in-person programming is returning outside. The theme for 2021 is Tails and Tales. She said there will be lots of animal themes around that central idea. She said we would be using BookPoints again this year to track progress. It is a virtual platform so that participants can log their reading minutes through a device to earn badges and points. There will be weekly raffles at the Main library as well as at the Hope branch for all participants and all levels. She said that the raffles keep people participating steadily. She reported that the statistics from last year counted 714,993 minutes read and 6516 books read through Summer Reading, which equaled 1.5 years of reading!

Bailey said that this year we are able to resume in-person participation. We have books and coupons as prizes as well as weekly raffles for \$25 gift cards. She reported that we will have activities and challenges in conjunction with community partnerships; many of which we developed last year and are returning for 2021, including Turning Point, Solid Waste Management, Parks & Rec, etc. She said that the Teen department is planning a scavenger hunt, among other activity/programming tie-ins around the central theme. She said that there is an option for paper participation for anyone unwilling or unable to participate online. Jorck asked when Summer Reading begins. Bailey answered that it begins June 1, with registration beginning May 24. She said it ends on July 24. Jorck asked if we were planning to return to normal operations on June 1. Hatton said that we are still planning to do so. He said Bartholomew County COVID numbers are trending downward and we would only change our plan if we went back to higher levels of yellow or orange on the COVID map. Whitted said she had attended an outdoor program with her grandchildren and noted very good attendance. Bailey said we are averaging 45 people per session. Hatton said we expect a good turnout similar to those numbers throughout Summer Reading and stressed that it is for all ages to participate.

Public Comment – 10 minutes

None.

New Business

Hatton reminded the Board of the June 14 Board meeting and that it will be in person.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Attested:

Billie Whitted, Secretary

Gary Gron, President