

BELLAIRE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
AT: 111 SOUTH BRIDGE STREET, BELLAIRE, MI  
Date: Friday December 13, 2024  
MINUTES

TRUSTEES ATTENDING: Diane Bennett, Mary Edens, Sue Holtzmann, Lee Kerr, Sydney Luke, Director Tom Shilts.

TRUSTEE EXCUSED ABSENCE: Don Hirt

CALL TO ORDER: President Edens called the meeting to order at 10:02 am

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion by Holtzmann, second by Luke to approve the amended agenda. Ayes: Bennett, Edens, Holtzmann, Kerr. Nays: None. Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Motion by Kerr, second by Holtzmann to approve the amended regular November meeting minutes of the Board. Motion carried.**

FINANCIAL REPORT: Financial Report for November 2024 was presented. As of November 30 there is \$89,095.36 in checking with additional accounts we have total assets of \$469,476.89. Adding current Liabilities and Equity there was a total of \$469,476.89. **Motion by Holtzmann, second by Luke to accept the November financial report. Motion carried.**

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT: Highlights from Director Shilts include increase in usage because library programs were well attended.

- Programs:
  - Rescheduled and canceled programs included “Lake Huron Mermaid” author Oomen and author McCormick’s “ Story of a Marriage”.
  - Light Up the Night soup, cookies, silent auction viewing was well attended.
  - Discontinued Teen Hangout and Kids Reading to Dogs because of poor attendance.
  - Weekly programs include Preschool Storytime with Miss Diane, Spanish Speaking Cohort and Tech Tuesdays with Gabe.
  - Monthly programs include Book Clubs: Page Turners, Last Tuesday Book Club.
  - Self directed crafting time week between Christmas and New Year.
  - Kids Coding Club meets every third Saturday at 10am.
- Grants:
  - \$450 mini grant awarded from MMLL for internet workstations.
  - Disability staff training to use LTC2 grant money still to come.
  - Application proposal for STEM lab purchase to be presented to 100 Women Who Care Elk Rapids.
  - Looking into grants for closing shelves for more floor space.
- Other:
  - Historical Society changes the display case near entrance.
  - “Emergency Geek”, Corey, came and worked on computer and printing issues.

- Although winter storm caused closing of library recently, closings do not follow school closings in Bellaire Public Schools.
- Gabe received praise in Antrim Review and was honored by board, staff, and community for his technology service.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Finance Committee: Year end budget amendments presented.
- Policy Committee: Meeting minutes for policy committee meeting on December 6, 2024 presented that reviewed Bellaire public Library \_ and made recommendations for *changes in the new year. Two former board members and MMLL added input .*\_

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Director 6 month evaluation to be done this month.
- Slate for board officers for 2025 presented with all present trustees remaining in office. To be voted in next month meeting.
- Policy Committee recommendations of reconsideration response to “Heartstopper” vol.5. **Motion by Luke, second by Kerr to keep “Heartstopper” vol 5 available in the Young Adult section in the library. Motion carried.**

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Policy Committee Recommendations: **Motion by Luke, second by Holtzmann to accept the policy revisions presented by the Policy Committee to not restrict access to any library materials. Aye\_**
- Budget amendments: **Motion by Luke, second by Holtzmann to accept the finance committee recommendations for amendments presented. Ayes: Bennett, Edens, Holtzmann, Kerr, Luke. Nays: None. Motion carried**

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

- Responses to the reconsideration issue has been noted widely including three newspaper articles, newspaper editorial, card, email supporting and 4 emails opposed to restriction, TV reports and many \_h communications. Luke offered to write an op-ed., Edens to send letter of thanks.

GRANTS, MEMORIALS & DONATIONS: MMLL mini grant for \$450 to be used for new computers. **Motion by Bennett, second by Luke to accept the grant of \$450 from MMLL. Motion carried.**

#### UPDATES AND REMINDERS:

Annual and regular monthly meeting schedule to be compiled. Next meeting on Friday, January 10th. 2025.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Gabe’s technology work is appreciated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: **Motion Bennett, second by Holtzmann to adjourn meeting at 11:32 am. Motion carried.**

NEXT MEETING: January 10, 2025.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Bennett, Secretary

Approved

1/10/2025