

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:09 PM.

Library Advisory Board Members

Michelle Evans, Kimberly Seay, Michele Stamps Pritchett, Cynthia Cochran, Nathan Pollet, Matthew Moses, Megan Bolinder, Teresa Stafford, Judy Marquess, Octavio Sanchez, Hadi Dudley, Vira Kousol, Bonnie Bridges, Heather Hays, and Samantha Sacry

Approval of April 5, 2023, and May 3, 2023 Minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from April 5, 2023, and May 3, 2023 meetings. Megan Bolinder moved, and Kimberly Seay seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The April 5, 2023, and May 3, 2023 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Heather Hays provided an adult services report.
 - a. GeekCon was a huge success this year!
 - i. Estimated attendance at 2,000 people and it was our first year to hold a cosplay contest.
 - ii. Trivia was way more popular than we anticipated; next year it will be held in the Walmart Community room.
 - iii. The Bentonville Satellite Rotary Club provided lunch and grilled hot dogs.
 - iv. The LARPerS and the mini-games were a hit, along with the Science program and a Caricature drawing workshop.
2. Hadi Dudley gave the Bentonville Public Library (BPL) report.
 - a. 150 Years Celebrations
 - i. The commemorative library card design was unveiled at GeekCon on May 6; production of special library cards was sponsored by the Friends of the Library
 - ii. The librarians also selected three (3) more designs for cards that will debut this fall
 - iii. June/July: City guest readers for Tuesday storytimes at 10:30 AM
 - iv. Bentonville Reading Bingo is planned for July.
 - b. Expansion update
 - i. Utility relocation work is slow and ongoing; hope to see more activity in the coming week
 - ii. Flintco is preparing letters to neighbors and will offer neighbors to meet the team.
 - c. Summer Reading Club
 - i. The theme is "All Together Now."
 - ii. Registration opened on May 30.
 - iii. In the first week, more than 1,700 readers were registered.
 - iv. Stories, crafts, workshops, book clubs, movies, and special performances are planned.
 - v. Due to the limited capacity of the Walmart Community Room, special performances require a free ticket to attend.
 - vi. Summer Feeding Program returns to Bentonville Public Library, in partnership with Aramark and Bentonville Schools. Free meals for kids will be served Monday through Friday from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM on June 5 through July 29.
 - vii. Saturday, July 1 at 9 AM – Noon, the Library will host its 3rd Annual OZ Kids™ Bike & Book Fest with the Ozark Outdoor Foundation.

1. Pedal It Forward has secured 150 bikes that will be given away.
- viii. Last day to log reading hours is July 31
- d. Other Library Business
 - i. Personnel update: new marketing staff hired; three part-time clerk positions posted – two for adult services and one in the children’s department (evening/Saturday schedules for three positions)
 - ii. For The Love Food Truck: BPL staff, Judy Marquess, and Michele Stamps Pritchett enjoyed working at Neighbor Night last week.
 1. The group said it was their best night ever; our team served 300 meals.
 2. We shared stories with children and handed out Bentonville 150 coloring books.
 3. Connecting with familiar faces and meeting new folks was a blast! Lots of gratitude and smiles from all.
 4. It was a great way to kick off summer reading. It may become an annual event. Thanks to Friends for sponsoring the evening!
3. Library Events: Advisory Board volunteers are needed for festivals and outreach events:
 - i. The 3rd Annual OZ Kids™ Bike & Book Fest: Saturday, July 1st at 9 AM-Noon
4. Hadi and board members reviewed Library Policy revisions related to Arkansas Act 372. Megan Bolinder moved, and Matthew Moses seconded, to approve the Library Policy revisions as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by the Library Advisory Board.
 - a. The policy revisions will be effective August 1, 2023 and posted online at that time.
 - b. The group briefly discussed a pending lawsuit that could delay or impact how Act 372 applies to policies that were just approved by the Advisory Board.
 - c. In the event that the effective date of August 1, 2023 does not apply to Arkansas public libraries, Cynthia Cochran moved, and Michele Stamps Pritchett seconded, to revert back to BPL’s original Library Policy. The motion was unanimously approved by the Library Advisory Board.
 - d. Hadi will communicate with members if a special meeting is required to further address policies.
5. Judy Marquess provided the Friends of the Library (FOL) Report
 - a. Financials for May include:
 - i. Book Store Sales
 - ii. Amazon Sales
 - iii. Memberships
 - iv. Miscellaneous
 - b. Total Revenue for May - \$2,005.22
 - c. Expenses for May - \$16,726.09
 - i. Including final payment of pledge to BPL expansion, Teen scholarships, Neighbor Night for the Love Food Truck, FOL insurance, and children’s books.
 - d. Year-to-Date Expenses - \$38,452.09
 - e. Total on deposit 5/31/2023 - \$18,293.72
 - f. Membership involvement – Between Friends, 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10 AM in the Sunroom. The next meeting is on June 21.
 - g. The next book sale - Children’s and Educator’s Sale Thursday, July 27 – Saturday, July 29
 - i. Children that come to the book sale will get a free book.
6. Teresa Stafford provided the Bentonville Library Foundation (BLF) Report
 - a. 2023 totals
 - i. Total donations this year-to-date = 154
 - ii. Total dollar this year-to-date = \$1,971,941.73
 - b. Building Fund to date:
 - i. Total amount committed = \$11,094,214

- ii. Including the \$4.5 million bond money we are at \$15,594,214.
 - 1. 93% of the total \$16,750,000 expansion cost
 - iii. Funding gap = \$1,155,785
- c. Campaign Phase II
 - i. Scheduled to begin in September this year.
 - 1. On hiatus through the summer
 - 2. Meetings will continue with multiple, current prospective individuals and corporate donors.
 - ii. BLF board has organized a marketing committee to launch Phase II
 - 1. Thanks to Friends for an additional \$10,000, which brings this month's total donations to \$50,000.
 - 2. Arvest made a \$30,000 gift to name an 8-seat meeting room in the library's expansion.
- d. The next BLF board meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2023.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 1 PM

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 2:04 PM