

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Library Advisory Board Members

Michelle Evans, Michele Stamps Pritchett, Megan Bolinder, Matthew Moses, Nathan Pollet, Teresa Stafford, Judy Marquess, Octavio Sanchez, Hadi Dudley, Vira Kousol

Guest: Rita Shaojing

Approval of November 1, 2023, Minutes

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from November 1, 2023. Michelle Evans moved, and Michele Stamps Pritchett seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The November 1, 2023 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Hadi Dudley gave the BPL report.
 - a. The library attended OZ Kids Fat Tire Crit & Fall Fest and reached about 350 people with big bubbles, building blocks with Flintco, and a free children's book giveaway sponsored by KPMG, among other booth activities. The festival was attended by 1,000 people, with 350 kid racers.
 - i. The BPL Teen Services Librarian and teen volunteers will attend Bentonville Schools' Chose Love community event on November 9 from 5 – 7 PM in the downtown square.
 - ii. The City of Bentonville is promoting [Plan Bentonville](#) and requests public participation. Hadi will email Mayor Stephanie Orman's invitation to participate in the [survey](#) to board members after today's meeting adjourns.
 - iii. Cynthia Cochran ends her first 5-year term of board service in December. She is agreeable to staying on and serving a second term. Her reappointment by the mayor will go to the City Council for approval at the next meeting.
 - iv. Hadi discussed scheduling a board photograph after the first of the year.
2. Library Expansion Update
 - a. Parking lot modifications are underway and are a little bit behind. The library is adding 12 new spots, bringing our total to 100.
 - i. The second foundation slab pour was completed last week, so the entire footprint of the facility is laid.
 - ii. Steel will be delivered this week and raised next week. After steel installation begins, a topping-out ceremony will be planned, and contractors can better predict the timing.
 - iii. Hadi shared aerial photos with the board showing the progression of the library project. Drone photos are courtesy of the Bentonville Fire Department.
3. Year-end Holiday Closures
 - a. November 10: Veterans Day (observed)
 - b. November 11: Veterans Day (holiday)
 - c. November 22: Close at 5 PM for Thanksgiving
 - d. November 23 and 24: Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
 - e. January 1: New Year's Day

4. The board reviewed the Donor naming. Michele Stamps Pritchett and Michelle Evans approved of the donor naming as presented.
 - a. 1st Security Bank: Social Services Computer Terminal
 - b. Arvest Bank: 8-Person Meeting Room
 - c. Alice L. Walton Foundation: Art Gallery Space
 - d. Bob and Becky Alexander: Craft Room
 - e. The Sikorski Family: Teen Collaboration Area
5. Judy Marquess provided the Friends of the Library Report
 - a. Fall Book Sale – October 5 – 7
 - i. Sales of more than \$4,900
 - ii. 60 new members
 - iii. Thanks to Zebra Technologies for transporting the books.
 - b. National Friends of the Library Week
 - i. Celebration Wednesday, October 18 at 10 AM, BPL Sunroom
 - ii. More than 20 attendees
 - iii. Proclamation by Mayor Orman
 - iv. Set goals of 150 new members by October 1, 2024, and increase donations.
 - c. Financials for October include:
 - i. Book Store Sales
 - ii. Amazon Sales
 - iii. Memberships
 - iv. Miscellaneous
 - d. Total Revenue for October - \$8,064
 - e. Expenses for October - \$1,018
 - i. Staff scholarship, Juvenile book sets, FOL expenses
 - f. Next FOL meeting scheduled for November 6, 2023, at 10 AM, Rotary Room
 - g. Next Between Friends – Wednesday, November 15, 2023, BPL Sunroom
6. Teresa Stafford provided the Library Foundation Report
 - a. 2023 totals
 - i. Total donations this year-to-date = 224
 - ii. Total dollar (cash in) this year-to-date = \$2,195,304
 - b. Building Fund to date:
 - i. Total donation amount committed = \$11,427,015
 - ii. Add the \$4.5 million bond money, we are at \$15,928,516.
 1. 95% to goal of \$16,750,000
 - iii. Funding gap = \$822,485
 - iv. Donations by sectors
 1. WFF = \$5.5M
 2. Walmart Foundation = \$1.5M
 3. AJW Foundation = \$500K
 4. City (bond + other) = \$5.1M
 5. BLF Individuals = \$3.3M
 - c. Campaign Phase II
 - i. Launched!
 1. 3rd Democrat-Gazette article – October 16th
 - a. Focus on how expansion benefits the community.
 - b. 3 area – youth services, adult & teens, businesses & community-based organizations

- 2. Multiple prospective donor meetings are ongoing.
 - a. Principal donor meeting scheduled 11/3
- d. End-of-year appeal
 - i. Planned for the last week of November.
 - 1. Specific funding request for Children's book bins, teen & adult book display, and BLF unrestricted use fund
 - 2. Remaining naming opportunities
 - e. The next BLF board meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2023.
- 7. Public Comments on Agenda Items (Limited Public Forum)
 - a. Guest Rita Shaojing Wu provided comments to the Library Advisory Board.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 1 pm

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 1:47 pm.