

Location

Bentonville Public Library (BPL) Haney Family Conference Room

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Attendees

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

Approval of January 31, 2024, Minutes

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from January 31, 2024. Michele Evans moved, and Megan Bolinder seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The January 31, 2024 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Hadi Dudley gave an update on the Bentonville Library Report
 - a. BPL is a solar eclipse glasses distribution point through a program with the Arkansas State Library and Institute of Museum and Library Services.
 - b. The new library website designed by Prisma will be beta testing in April; the launch is planned for early May.
 - c. School outreach opportunities for advisory board members to represent BPL:
 - i. Friday, April 5, 5 pm - Sugar Creek Elementary STEM Night
 - ii. Thursday, April 11, 5 pm - Centerton Gamble STEM Night
 - iii. Thursday, April 18, 5 pm - Vaughn Elementary STEM Night
 - iv. Friday, April 19, 5 pm - Mary May Jones Cultural Fair
2. Expansion/Remodel Update
 - a. The expansion is progressing, with the roof done and the brickwork started.
 - b. The spring renovation schedule will be tightened up next week, but April 1st is still the target date for work to begin.
 - i. The Friends store relocation will be in early May with partial shelving installation.
 - ii. New sorter installation is scheduled for May 20.
 - iii. Library staff workspace and public service point adjustments will be made throughout the spring and fall renovations of the project.
 - c. The shelving purchase is planned for City Council approval on March 26
 - i. The cost of the new shelving is approximately \$320,000.
 - ii. Cost-savings to reuse the existing shelving and furniture are approximately \$543,950 and reduce our carbon footprint.
 - iii. The purchase is through a cooperative contract, so bidding is unnecessary.
 - iv. Shelving takes longer than other furnishings.
 - v. Two installation phases are planned for new shelving and reusing youth shelves in adult collection areas.

- vi. Investigating the cost of all new picture book bins with local millworker in the construction budget.
- d. Furniture package is being finalized for distribution to dealers.
 - i. Furniture package is planned for City Council approval on April 9.
 - ii. Overall, FF&E cost (both furniture and shelving) is tracking a little over budget at \$1.6M. This includes projections carried for two installation phases (new and renovated spaces)
 - iii. Furniture alternatives are being considered for some areas to reduce costs.
 - iv. Reusing existing furniture saves significant money and reduces our carbon footprint.
 - 1. Refer to illustration of new and reused furnishings and shelving with total cost savings of both components valued at approximately \$800,000.
- 3. Kimberly Seay moved, and Matthew Moses seconded the donor naming listing as presented. The donor naming list was approved by the board as presented.
 - a. John Shores Community Meeting Room (4-person study)
 - b. Sandy Loveless: Children's Picture Book Bin
 - c. Joseph & Cindee Murphy: Children's Picture Book Bin
 - d. William & Shannon Burkart: Children's Picture Book Bin
 - e. Fineberg & Associates: Youth Book Display
- 4. Judy Marquess provided the Friends of the Bentonville Library Report
 - a. Spring Book Sale – March 22 – 23
 - i. Member preview sale March 21, 5 pm – 7:30 pm
 - ii. Public sale Friday and Saturday 9 am – 4:30 pm
 - iii. All ages, all genres, DVDs, games, and puzzles
 - b. Financial for February include:
 - i. Revenue sources
 - 1. Book Store Sales
 - 2. Memberships
 - 3. Miscellaneous
 - ii. Expenses
 - 1. BPL Volunteer appreciation supplies
 - 2. FOL Storage Rental
 - iii. Money Market - \$30,755
 - iv. EOY Checking Account - \$9,678
 - c. Next FOL meeting – April 1, 10 am, BPL Sunroom
 - d. Next Between Friends – Wednesday, March 20, 10 am, BPL Sunroom
- 5. Teresa Stafford provided the Bentonville Library Foundation Report
 - a. 2024 totals YTD:
 - i. Total donations = 41
 - ii. Total dollars (cash in) = \$110,404
 - b. Building Fund to date:
 - i. Total donation amount committed = \$11,459,982
 - ii. Funding gap = \$790,018
 - c. National Library Giving Day – April 3
 - i. Focus on trees, bins, and BLF general use fund
 - ii. Mail 3/28
 - d. 2024 annual Donor Appreciation Luncheon:

- i. 77 registered / 65 attended
 - ii. Shana DeSmith, V.P. Sam's Club – keynote speaker
 - 1. Becoming a Regenerative Company – Walmart's priority issues
 - 2. Sustainably Sourced Seafood
- e. BLF BOD's update:
 - i. Established a new working committee – Donor Relations and Community Development
 - 1. Creating expanded awareness of the library's amenities and new opportunities for businesses, supplier/vendor community, and new residents to Bentonville
 - 2. Increasing engagement
 - 3. Collaborating with the WFF Home Region team and the Runway Group to develop assets in the community.
 - ii. The next BLF board meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2024.
- 6. Public Comments on Agenda Items (Limited Public Forum)

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 1 PM

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Post-meeting

Flintco allowed the Library Advisory Board and Ex-Officio members to tour the expansion. Protective gear was provided and required.

About Public Comments on Agenda Items

Library Advisory Board meetings are open to the public. Guests may make public comments at the end of the agenda. To make a public comment, you must register with your name, address, phone number, and email address. Each person is limited to 3 minutes of comments; public comments should relate to board meeting agenda items.

Illustration

furniture plan

