

Location

Bentonville Public Library (BPL)
Teen Zone

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

Attendees

Kimberly Seay, Michele Stamps Pritchett, Megan Bolinder, Michelle Evans, Nathan Pollet, Matthew Moses, Octavio Sanchez, Judy Marquess, Tara Cloud Clark, Heather Hays and Hadi Dudley. Guest: Rita Shaojing Wu.

Approval of Minutes: June 5, 2024 and August 6, 2024

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from June 5, 2024. Kimberly Seay moved, and Megan Bolinder seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The June 5, 2024 board minutes were approved as presented.

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from August 6, 2024. Michele Stamps Pritchett moved, and Kimberly Seay seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The August 6, 2024 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Public Art Loan from OZ Art NWA
 - a. Artwork will be installed the week of October 21st, along with RFID technology and new fishtank. BPL is considering an art reception and is looking to host the event on Friday, November 8 after 5PM. More details will be announced as plans develop.
2. Expansion/Renovation Update
 - a. Shelving installation begins week of September 23rd and will take more than two weeks for installing new shelves and moving existing stacks.
 - b. Furniture deliveries and installation begin week of September 30th when the library is closed and BPL staff begin moving books.
 - c. Keys to the building are expected to be passed to library director around mid-October.
 - d. Demolition will take place while the library is closed to the public for safety reasons. A temporary construction wall will be installed to provide a walkway between the existing and c
 - e. The library will be reopen to the public on Monday, October 28 at 9AM. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 30 at 5PM.
 - f. Construction on the remodeled areas will continue until end-January. Coordination of back-of-house updates will impact staff offices and breakroom.
 - g. Hadi expects all areas to be open for use sometime in February.
3. Bentonville Library Report
 - a. Summer Reading Club was a big success! Statistics were compiled by the Children's Librarian, Christina Clark.
 - i. Theme: Adventure Begins at Your Library

- ii. 4,270 people registered to participate in the reading club.
 - iii. Adults – 1,052
 - iv. Teens – 528
 - v. School-age children – 2,008
 - vi. Preschool-age children – 672
 - vii. BPL Staff – 10
 - viii. Participants logged their reading minutes throughout June and July for a chance to win prizes.
 - ix. A total of 53,417 reading hours were logged.
 - x. Summer programming included:
 - xi. Opera in the Ozarks performance
 - xii. Storytimes, bookclubs, and teen workshops.
 - xiii. Programs were very well attended and received great feedback.
 - xiv. The library also partnered with Aramark and Bentonville Schools again to provide free lunches for kids 18 and under
 - xv. We had a great turnout with 9,937 served and the patrons were very appreciative.
 - b. Related to the library move, Hadi discussed how she is compiling a large surplus furniture list that will be approved by City Council.
 - i. Many tables, chairs and carts are being transferred to other libraries. Small public libraries in the region are going to be able to utilize several pieces.
 - ii. Some items will be set for online public auction; other items will be disposed of due to poor condition.
 - c. Marketing and Communications Update by Tara Cloud Clark
 - i. Tara shared some of the redesigned print materials that she's been working on to streamline content. The library's new website is live and Tara provided an overview of the layout.
 - ii. A logo concept for the library's rebranding proposal was reviewed with board members. Tara walked the group through a presentation about overall timing, inspirational concepts as well as use of font and color schemes for the new logo. Several versions were shown to demonstrate how the brand progressed based on feedback from the library leadership team. Alignment with library support groups' branding is also a consideration. The color scheme and specific things about the logo were discussed by meeting attendees.
 - iii. Members were favorable of the new logo brand, stating that it was "thoughtful" and "ties together" many library ideas and the Bentonville community. It "reflects who we are" and was described as "professional." Some members stated that they "love it."
 - iv. More work is being done to finalize the library's branding; final logo designs will be used by the library when the time is right.
 - d. Heather Hays, Adult Services Librarian, attended the meeting to make herself available to discuss the collection relocation. She also shared input on the renovation timeline and logo/rebranding discussion.
 - e. Bentonville History Museum
 - i. Hadi reported that she is working with the Mayor and others to bring the History Museum into the library's organizational structure in 2026.
4. Friends of the Bentonville Library Report
- a. Judy Marquess provided the Friends report.

- b. The group is planning a Load the Truck event. It is a book donation drive planned for Saturday, September 28, 9:00-3:00, just outside the library entrance.
 - c. Volunteers are looking forward to the new shelving for the book store arriving during October. Shelving will increase from 77 to 298 shelves.
 - d. The Friends group is planning to schedule teams of volunteers to organize the store during October. A public plan to hold a formal ribbon cutting for the store in early November is being discussed.
 - e. Book store sales have slowed some since the start of school but continue to be strong.
 - f. Donations continue to come in with us processing more than 100 books per day.
 - g. Financials for are not yet available due the Labor Day holiday.
 - h. Between Friends: next meeting is Wednesday, September 18, 10:00 in the McGaugh Room
 - i. Next FOL meeting: Monday, November 4, 10:00 am in the McGaugh Room.
- 5. Bentonville Library Foundation Report
 - a. Hadi Dudley provided an overview of the Library Foundation's report compiled by BLF Executive Director Teresa Stafford. The full report is included below.
 - b. 2024 totals YTD
 - i. Total donations = 139
 - ii. Total dollars (cash in) = \$166,440
 - iii. Outstanding in pledges = \$263,000
 - c. New donations:
 - i. RJW Logistics Group pledged a \$50,000 donation to name the book return
 - 1. Past corporate donor approved by the Library Advisory Board.
 - ii. A recent \$5,000 donation provided multiple items to support children's library / programs
 - d. Fund Development plan:
 - i. 2024 EOY appeal: Mail/Constant Contact blast after Oct. 30 Ribbon Cutting
 - ii. 2025 Donor Appreciation Luncheon is planned for end of February
 - 1. BLF's formal end of campaign celebration
 - 2. Named spaces dedication
 - 3. Reveal post campaign focus
 - iii. September 2025 is the timeline for the Booked for the Evening and Library Service Awards event.
 - e. Next BLF board meeting scheduled September 9, 2024
- 6. Public Comments on Agenda Items (Limited Public Forum)
 - a. Rita Shaojing Wu provided several comments during the meeting, specific to her personal opinion about the library's logo (agenda item 3.c.).

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 1 PM
BPL Room Location TBD

Adjournment

The Library Advisor Board adjourned at 2:06 PM

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. Making a public comment will require you to 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.