

Attendees: Betsy Batey, Megan Bolinder, Aaron Jones, Nathan Pollet, Chuck Pribbernow, Octavio Sanchez, Teresa Stafford, Sarah Herford and Hadi Dudley

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Introduction of Guests

- Melissa Godoy, Candidate for Library Advisory Board

Melissa introduced herself to the group as a candidate for the Library Advisory Board. She described herself as a library user and volunteer for the Friends of the Bentonville Library.

- Melanie Welch, American Library Association, Public Programs Office, Project Director - *Thinking Money*

Melanie introduced herself to the group and discussed her role at the ALA and an overview of the Public Programs Office. She was complimentary of Bentonville Public Library's participation in the *Thinking Money* project.

Members of the Library Advisory Board introduced themselves and welcomed our guests.

Approval of Wednesday, February 3, 2018 Minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from the February 3, 2017 meeting. Aaron Jones moved, Betsy Batey seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The February 3, 2017 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Library Report
 - a. *Thinking Money* – Sarah Herford, Teen Services Librarian and project lead for *Thinking Money*, provided the report.
 - i. Estimated attendance 2400+ (primarily through library programs)
 - ii. Extended viewing period thru March 21
 - iii. 140 libraries applied for *Thinking Money*, and 50 were selected. BPL is the only library in Arkansas to host the exhibit.
 - b. A Bentonville Youth Literature Festival update was provided by Hadi.
 - i. Twenty-five (of 26) school visits on Friday scheduled
 1. Bentonville Public Schools ESL Center purchased more than 500 books for to distribute to direct-service ESL students.
 - ii. Soapbox Influencer Marketing, Beth Stephens, generous in-kind gift of marketing/communications
 1. Developing "Press Kits" for schools
 2. School Library Liaison with Bentonville Schools is helping with communication to school libraries.
 - c. Library Personnel update – Hadi reported that recent vacant positions have been filled.
 - d. Bentonville GeekCon, Featuring Free Comic Book Day, is scheduled for Saturday, May 5. Hadi gave the group a general overview.

- i. A Library centered convention that promotes literacy and creativity through graphic novels and pop culture.
 - ii. This all-ages event appeals to everyone and includes comics, tabletop gaming, workshops, panels, and so much more!
 - iii. Founded by Dalene Schrier, the event is sponsored by Friends of the Bentonville Library.
 - e. Arkansas State Library's *If All Arkansas Read the Same Book* project was announced by Hadi.
 - i. A library tour will be hosted with the state-wide project in early June for author, Lisa Wingate.
 - 1. Her book, *Before We Were Yours*, a *NYT Best Seller*, is the selection.
 - 2. Wingate is a prolific Christian Fiction author.
 - 3. She has strong regional readership in NW Arkansas.
 - ii. BPL has been selected as tour stop – more details to come!
 - f. Library Advisory Board position – Hadi updated the group on the schedule noting that Melissa's appointment is planned for late-March to City Council.
- 2. Friends of the Library Report
 - a. Chuck Pribbernow reported that a newly designed Friends website would be ready soon.
 - b. Chuck mentioned ReaderLink had another large donation of books for pick-up.
 - c. Chuck announced the Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale will be on Friday, April 6 to Saturday, April 7 with an advance "members only" sale on Thursday, April 5 at 5:00 pm.
 - d. The Friends' May meeting will be hosted off-site at member Debbie Matteri's In Season.
 - e. Chuck also reported that the Friends donated \$200 to the Teen Advisory Board to purchase member t-shirts.
 - f. Chuck discussed February financials, noting FOL has \$23,552 on balance, with more than \$10,000 committed to library projects.
- 3. Library Foundation Report
 - a. Teresa Stafford reported that February YTD giving is up 25% overall.
 - b. Teresa announced that Foundation's February 25th Giving Societies Appreciation Luncheon realized a 30% increase in attendance from last year, with expenses to host the event down -1%.
 - c. Teresa stated that Benjamin Lacy will be joining as a Foundation Board member in April.
 - d. The Spring appeal will be mailed April 12th with a focus on Youth Lit Fest.
 - a. BLF will seek to capture lapsed donors, encouraging them to join the Loyalist Society.
 - b. BLF is partnering with the library for another patron appeal to 2,500 contacts.
 - e. Booked for the Evening will be held on Tuesday, September 18th. This year a new award will be announced at the event, the Emerging Leader Award for Teens/Young Adults.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 1 PM in Tate Haney Conference Room.

Adjournment - The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 1:55 p.m.