

Call to Order

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

Attendees: Betsy Batey, Megan Bolinder, Cynthia Cochran, Michelle Stamps Pritchett, Nathan Pollet, Kimberly Seay, Judy Marquess, Teresa Stafford, Octavio Sanchez, Hadi Dudley and Vira Kousol.

Location: City of Bentonville, City Hall, Council Chambers (305 SW A Street) with virtual option

Approval of May 5, 2021 Minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from the May 5, 2021 meeting. Cynthia Cochran moved, Betsy Batey seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The May 5, 2021 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Hadi provided Library Updates
 - a. Personnel
 - i. The Children's Librarian, Sue Ann Pekel, announced retirement in May; she is working through mid-September. Hadi posted the position on the city's page, Indeed and Arkansas Library Association. She also shared with public library directors across Arkansas and in the NWA region.
 - ii. A full-time specialist position opened and was back-filled with a part-time staff. A few people are swapping schedules and BPL has had additional part-time vacancies. One evening/Saturday position in the adult services department is still open.
 - b. Summer activities
 - i. Summer is busy at BPL – good turnout for storytimes on the veranda with nearly 80 people in attendance at a few programs; BPL has hosted civics programs and science experiments and outreach activities have resumed. Book clubs for adults are going well.
 - c. OZ Kids® Bike & Book Fest
 - i. Capped registration at 500, but had 1,000 in attendance
 - ii. Registered 78 bikes distributed by Pedal It Forward to children
 - iii. Additional requests for 38 bike will be filled this summer
 - d. The Mayor's Book Club
 - i. Selected book: *Find Your Why* / Simon Sinek
 - ii. Community Event – Panel Discussion on July 19 @ 12 PM
 - iii. Community Event – Book Discussion Groups on July 20 @ 12 PM and 6 PM
 - iv. Three book discussion sessions for City of Bentonville Staff during for the week of July 26
 - v. 100 copies of the book were purchased by the Library Foundation
 - e. ARPA grant application with the Arkansas State Library is pending
 - i. Planning for September 1, 2021 submission
 - f. Other updates
 - i. Reading Invitation: Top 21 Reading Ideas for Fall 2021 was shared by Hadi. The draft will be updated and shared with the public in August.
 - ii. Hadi informed the group that a possible reconsideration request of children's picture book may be forthcoming with the potential for the board's review in the future. Hadi generally discussed the policy for collection development and reconsideration.

2. Hadi updated the group on Library Expansion
 - a. BPL, the City and the Library Foundation have agreed to proceed with a public-private partnership for the full expansion option (\$15M plan)
 - b. Procedures for procuring design and preconstruction services is underway
 - i. RFQ solicitation posted and selection committee formed
 - ii. Several firms responded and rating was consistent among committee members
 - i. Five design firms submitted – interviewing top rated firm
 - ii. Ten construction companies submitted – interviewing top 3 rated firms
3. Judy shared the Friends of the Library Report
 - a. June 5 pop-up sale on the veranda raised \$1,779.26
 - b. Total for our three pop-up sales this spring is \$5,788
 - c. Plans continue for our Back-To-School Tent Sale in BPL’s Backyard
 - i. Thursday, August 5 Educator’s Appreciation Day 25% off 9 AM – 7 PM
 - i. Includes Homeschoolers
 - ii. Thursday, August 5 Members’ Early Sale 4 PM – 7 PM
 - iii. Friday, August 6 Open to Public 9 AM – 5 PM
 - iv. Saturday, August 7 Open to Public 9 AM – 5 PM
 - v. Sunday, August 8 Open to Public 12 PM – 5 PM
 - vi. Approximately 25,000 books for Toddlers to Young Adult
 - vii. Every child accompanied by an adult will receive a free book
 - viii. FOL proceeds will be donated to the BPL expansion
 - ix. Volunteers needed
 - d. October semi-annual sale scheduled for September 30 – October 2
 - e. Plan to move back to our old store location after August sale
 - f. Total revenue for May was \$3,790.89, which included book store sales, pop-up sales, Amazon, memberships, and miscellaneous sales. June financials will be reported on July 12.
 - i. Expenses for May \$3,790.89
 - ii. YTD revenue \$\$13,134.60
 - iii. YTD expenses \$10,971.25
4. Teresa provided the Library Foundation Report
 - a. 2021 totals YTD:
 - i. 134 donations
 - ii. Dollars = \$61,142.91
 - b. Lead gift commitments (highly confidential):
 - i. Two principal gifts received
 - ii. Announcement of total amount raised toward the expansion will be revealed in October at a community event
 - c. Plans for Booked for the Evening – Public phase of campaign kickoff:
 - i. October 16th or 23rd – to be confirmed
 - d. September 14th PEO presentation (Hadi and Teresa)
 - e. The next Foundation board meeting is September 13th

With time remaining before adjournment of the end of the meeting, the board participated in roundtable discussion.

Next Meeting – Hadi asked the group to hold August 4, 2021 for meeting (TBD)

Adjournment – The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 1:59 p.m.