

Minutes  
Bartholomew County Public Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
July 11, 2022  
Board Meeting 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by President Gron at The Hope Branch Annex.

Present on site: Monta Frazier, Gary Gron, Laura Hack, Stephen Shipley, Billie Whitted, and Mike Wilkerson. Library staff: Jason Hatton, Director; Michelle Williams, Business Services Coordinator; Dave Miller, Hope Manager. Mike McIver, Attorney.

Present via Zoom: Vern Jorck

Absent: None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 13, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Shipley moved and Wilkerson seconded approval of the June 13, 2022 meeting as presented. The Board was polled and all answered Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report and Approval of Claims

A. Claims 392 through 473 in the amount of \$414,031.66 were reviewed. Hatton made note of the following claims: Claim 428 for Cypress Resume. Claim 441 to Hubler Honda for the new Outreach Vehicle. Claim 450 to MCLS for the Morningstar Investment database. Claim 454 to OfficeWorks for the new Conference Room tables. Jorck asked what was done with the original tables. Hatton answered that they have been moved to Lower Level (former Art Print area) for patron use. Whitted moved and Frazier seconded approval to pay Claims 392 through 473 in the amount of \$414,031.66. The Board was polled and all answered Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Further Financial Discussion. Hatton reminded the Board that June is the end of tax year for government entities and that we had received our spring allotment of property taxes. He said he was in the process of working on the 2023 budget. We received notice of the growth quotient for 2023. The growth quotient is 5%. Whitted asked how that compares to previous years and Hatton responded that he had never seen it that high.

Action Items

None.

## Reports

A. Hope Branch Manager – Dave Miller. Miller reported on the Hope Branch activities as well as activities in the town itself. He discussed upgrades to the town square, including electric automobile chargers, which show great potential. He reported on the Summer Reading kick-off held on the square. He said they had a great turnout and were happy the weather held off enough to hold it outside. He said they had 25 new library card applications, and that, overall, they were very pleased with how the event went.

Miller reported on the Story Times series. He said the weather has cooperated so that he has been able to hold them on the Bandstand on the Square. It makes it very visible to the community. He said patrons in surrounding businesses can hear the Story Times and are happy to interact. He said it is a great means of outreach.

Miller said he is the selector for the fiction collection. He said that our partnership with Indiana Digital has affected the selection process, in that now he can focus more on selections based on patron requests, publisher's reviews, as well as cost. He said being a selector is interesting because he selects books that cater to many different tastes, as opposed to only picking out the books he likes.

On a personal note, Miller talked about his beekeeping and compared it to the library in that everyone working together is what makes it all work. He then closed his report with a story about his popular Pirate Story Time. One was used as a promotional photo shoot for advertisement at Yes! Cinema. One young patron was very excited to see Pirate Dave on the big screen. Hatton added that Dave is the library to many patrons and community members.

Gron asked about the limestone ledges at the Branch. Miller said representatives from the Indiana Limestone Council had visited the site to examine the crumbling ledges and noted the deterioration rendered them unfixable. They will be replaced with cast stone. He added that in other repair issues, the awnings are a work in progress. Hatton said that project has been bid out to Repp & Mundt, but he was unsure of the timeline for completion. Frazier asked about signage for the Annex. Miller said that has been discussed in the past, but it is currently on the back burner due to the other repairs. Jorck asked about the lease terms for the Annex. Hatton answered that it is a year-to-year lease with favorable rates that we rollover every year. Miller said that the Annex was a great community space. It is used for meetings and other events on the Square. It was used for a judging station during the Smoke on the Square event, and is always in use during Hope Heritage Days.

## Public Comment – 10 minutes

Several members of the community attended the meeting to express their thoughts and opinions regarding materials available at the library, both in support and opposition. They expressed their opinions on materials, programs, the appearance of departments within the library, and activity outside the library. Some attendees had specific questions or comments relating to Hope Branch. Gron thanked them for their input and said that we will evaluate their feedback. He added that the Board and the library appreciate the communication of ideas from all perspectives.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Attested:

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Billie Whitted, Secretary

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Gary Gron, President