

Bridges Library System Board Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2022 - FINAL

PRESENT: IN PERSON: Linda Ager, Art Biermeier, Betsy Forrest, Jim Heinrich, Richard Nawrocki, Larry Nelson, Howard Pringle, Nancy Wilhelm VIA ZOOM: Joan Fitzgerald, Jean Yeomans

EXCUSED: Amy Reichert

OTHERS: Karol Kennedy, Bridges Library System Director; Mellanie Mercier, Bridges Library System Automation Coordinator and Assistant Director; Melissa Anderson, APL representative and Jefferson Public Library Director; Alex Klosterman, Waukesha County Senior Financial Analyst; Beth North, Bridges Library System Department Executive Assistant, Gerard Saylor, L.D. Fargo Public Library Director, Angela Meyers, Bridges Library System Coordinator of Youth and Inclusive Services

Call to order: Linda Ager, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Bridges Library System Office in Waukesha with optional attendance via Zoom.

Introductions: Introductions were completed after the call to order.

Comments from the Public: None.

Correspondence: Linda Ager shared a letter from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction dated March 4, 2022, informing Bridges of DPI's approval of the Bridge's 2022 annual system plan.

Meeting Minutes: A Nawrocki/Biermeier motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2022, meeting minutes as presented passed unanimously.

ACTION ON THE BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Bills Reports: A Pringle/Wilhelm motion to approve the monthly invoices for funds 210 and 215 for year-end 2021 and February 2022 as submitted passed unanimously.

Financial Reports: A Heinrich/Pringle motion to accept the financial reports as of February 2022 for funds 210 and 215 passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Bridges Director's Report: Karol Kennedy stated that all libraries, with the exception of Elm Grove, have submitted their annual reports. Elm Grove's report is anticipated to be done within the next week. Karol shared the comments that some member libraires made regarding Bridges from the "System Effectiveness" section of annual reports. All were very positive. Karol updated the board regarding the Waukesha County Library Service Plan. A resolution to the county board will be on the April 12 County Board agenda. Karol notified the board that the library director at the Powers Memorial Library in Palmyra has resigned.

Bridges Staff: Angela Meyers, Bridges Library System Coordinator of Youth and Inclusive Services, gave a presentation on the Bridges collaboration with StoryCorps, a nonprofit organization dedicated to

recording, collecting, sharing, and preserving people's stories by doing interviews. These recordings are shared with the interviewees and are also archived at the Library of Congress. Larry Nelson and his wife did two StoryCorps interviews this week and Larry shared his experience with the board.

Mellanie Mercier, Bridges Library System Automation Coordinator and Assistant Director, shared that 14 libraries applied for the competitive Bridges Innovation Grants. Three libraries will be awarded funding.

APL: Melissa Anderson, APL representative and Jefferson Public Library Director, noted that APL met on March 11th at the recently renovated Watertown Public Library. There was a discussion of the WPLC's draft document of the Collection Development Committee Recommendations for 2022, including an increase in the buying pool amount of 5%. Also discussed at APL was the "Inclusive Services Assessment and Guide" cohort that 6 libraries participated in. Information was shared about the ARPA IT Hardware Grants and remaining COVID precautions that each library is taking.

Resource Library: Betsy Forrest shared that an open house showcasing the Waukesha Public Library's renovations is scheduled for April 9th, and there are special events and programming taking place the following week. A flyer with the schedule and details will be shared with all board members.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Bridges Library System 2021 State Annual Report: Karol presented the report to the board and explained each section. A Nelson/Yeomans motion to approve the Bridges Library System 2021 State Annual Report passed unanimously.

2021 Bridges Library System Strategic Planning process and timeline: Karol noted that the last strategic plan was done in 2018 and plans are underway for a 2022 strategic plan update and full-day meeting. Nancy Wilhelm has volunteered to lead the strategic plan meeting. A proposed date of May 6th at the Watertown Public Library was made, and Karol will send an email to member libraries, directors, and staff about additional dates/locations.

System Director 2022 Goals Status Report: Karol updated the board relative to each of her goals, specifically the 2022 strategic plan update, review and revision of internal procedures, and the website redesign.

Next meeting: April 20, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. as a hybrid meeting at the Muskego Public Library, S73W16663 Janesville Road, Muskego, WI 53150.

At 5:25 p.m., a Wilhelm/Biermeier motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by:
Beth North
Executive Assistant

Respectfully Submitted:
Linda Ager
Board President