

Bridges Library System Board Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2023 - FINAL

PRESENT: In person: Linda Ager, Art Biermeier, Betsy Forrest, Jim Heinrich, Diane Knutson, Robert Kraus, Amy Reichert, Jean Yeomans, Nancy Wilhelm; Via Zoom: Anthony Gulig, Larry Nelson

EXCUSED: None

OTHERS: Karol Kennedy, Bridges Library System Director; Mellanie Mercier, Bridges Library System Automation Coordinator; Rachel McCracken, Bridges Library System Executive Assistant; Peg Checkai, Watertown Public Library Director and APL Representative; Gerard Saylor, LD Fargo Public Library (Lake Mills) Director, Kelli Mountford, Karl Junginger Memorial Library Director (Waterloo); Via Zoom: Bruce Gay, Waukesha Public Library Executive Director and Resource Library Representative.

Call to order: Linda Ager, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Karl Junginger Memorial Library in Waterloo.

Introductions: Introductions were completed after the call to order.

Comments from the Public: None

Correspondence: None

Meeting Minutes: A Biermeier/Wilhelm motion to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2023, meeting as presented passed unanimously.

ACTION ON THE BILLS REPORT

Bills Reports:

A Heinrich/Reichert motion to approve the monthly invoices for funds 205, 210, and 215 as submitted passed unanimously.

A Heinrich/Biermeier motion to approve the financial report for funds 210 and 215 ending March 31, 2023, as submitted passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Bridges Director's Report: Karol Kennedy thanked the members of the Board who attended the Joint Finance Committee Hearing on April 5, 2023. She also shared the annual report statements from member libraries concerning system effectiveness. All 24 member libraries indicated Bridges Library System provided effective leadership and adequately met the needs of the libraries.

Staff Report: none

APL: Peg Checkai shared that the group met at the Waukesha Public Library and discussed budget priorities for 2024. She also reported that the Passport Program would be offered at member libraries this summer.

Resource Library: Bruce Gay reported they are preparing the materials pick-up lockers for implementation. The lockers will enable patrons to pick up items 24 hours a day from the libraries.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

StoryCorps Contract Extension: A Wilhelm/Yeomans motion to approve the contract extension for StoryCorps agreement passed unanimously. It was noted we anticipate we will reach the initial goal of 150 stories gathered by the July goal date. This contract will extend this partnership for twelve months, until April 30, 2024.

New Website Demo: Mellanie Mercier completed a demonstration of the new Bridges Library System website. She highlighted the password protected staff resources section of the new website.

Trustee Essentials Chapter 26: The Public Library System Board – the Broad Viewpoint: An overview of this chapter of the *Trustee Essentials: A Handbook for Wisconsin Public Library Trustees* was provided. This chapter discusses the background of the creation of public library systems and focuses on system services and accountability, as well as the responsibilities of the library system board.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. as a hybrid meeting at the Muskego Public Library in Muskego.

At 4:42 p.m., a Biermeier/Knutson motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by:
Rachel McCracken
Executive Assistant

Respectfully Submitted:
Jean Yeomans
Board Secretary