

Van Buren District Library Board

Board Meeting
October 25, 2016
Webster Memorial Library

Minutes

Chairperson Sandra Hanson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Webster Memorial Library.

Present: Wayne Rendell, Phillip Marshall, Bruce Cutting, Libby Godwin, Marianne Abbott, Betty Markel, Catherine Hulin, and Sandra Hanson. Ryan Wieber, director; Debby Stassek, assistant director; and Molly Wunderlich, business manager.

Absent: No one.

It was moved to approve the agenda, with the addition of "Employee Changes" under New Business. (Motion: Rendell; Second: Markel; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2016 Board meeting, as mailed. (Motion: Markel; Second: Godwin; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to approve for payment the September supplemental "due to" vouchers number 16-09-49 through 16-09-50 in the amount of \$1,712.97; September supplemental General Fund vouchers number 16-09-49 through 16-09-84 in the amount of \$66,639.36; October "due to" vouchers number 16-10-01 through 16-10-02 in the amount of \$1,042.37; and October General Fund vouchers number 16-10-03 through 16-10-96 in the amount of \$129,087.30. (Motion: Cutting; Second: Abbott; Motion: Carried).

Public Comment:

None

Reports:

Molly Wunderlich reviewed VBDL's revenues and expenditures through the end of the third quarter. In revenues, a \$3,167.54 reimbursement was received for the Bangor Renaissance Zone. In expenditures, magazine subscriptions (account 982.3) have a high unspent balance, but are mostly paid at the end of the year. Friends of the Library book sales at all branches netted \$8,364.23 in 2016. September penal fines were up 12.39 percent from September 2015.

Mr. Wieber thanked everyone who contributed to the success of the Friends' book sales. He reviewed his written director's report. The migration to the new Verso automation system is on track to go live on November 4. Discussions on the new Gobles Library continue and are currently awaiting more accurate construction estimates from architect Bryan Koehn. One possible funding option is through the USDA Rural Facilities Program, which would require that a joint building authority be established in Gobles and Pine Grove. The authority would issue a bond, and then repaid by the two local units by way of millages. Wieber attended meetings in Pine Gove and Gobles during the last month to discuss the new library plans. New storage has been installed at the Bloomingdale branch and the Gobles branch has received new shelving near the entrance.

The Board discussed a possible cost sharing agreement for legal matters related to the New Covert Generating property tax dispute. There was general agreement that the Board needs more information on the support levels and caps being considered by other entities.

Mr. Wieber announced that circulation for September was up 2.47 percent and that October is also on track for an increase. VBDL locations hosted 107 events in September, with 1,799 people in attendance. Wieber underscored a special role for the Library in promoting literacy, especially in view of new reading requirements for third grade promotion which will begin in 2020.

Unfinished Business:

Long term cost-saving changes to the Library's retirement program were discussed, namely, changing to a 401a defined contribution plan for new employees, capping the Library's contribution at 6 percent, and changing the vesting period from 10 to 7 years. The Board requested more information on other options, and MERS regional manager Michael Overley will be asked to speak at a future meeting. Wieber suggested that spring 2017 might be the best time to make changes, since the lame duck legislature in Lansing may mandate new rules for publicly funded retirement plans.

New Business:

It was moved to authorize Director Ryan Wieber to sign a letter of engagement with Attorney Anne M. Seurnyck of Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC. (Motion: Cutting; Second: Rendell; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to adopt the attached 2016 budget amendments, including increases and decreases of \$14,100. (Motion: Cutting; Second: Godwin; Voting 'yes' -- Rendell, Marshall, Abbott, Hulin, Godwin, Cutting, Markel, and Hanson; Voting 'no' – no one; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to hire Elizabeth Hemingway as Lawrence Branch Clerk (Level 13D, 22 hours per week) and Liana Mancillas as Webster Memorial Library Page (Level 10A, 14 hours per week). (Motion: Abbott; Second: Rendell; Motion: Carried).

The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday, November 22, 2016, at 5:00 p.m., at the Webster Memorial Library in Decatur. This meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

Recorded by Debby Stassek