

Van Buren District Library Board

Board Meeting May 28, 2019 Bloomington Branch Library

Minutes

Chairperson Bruce Cutting called the board meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. at the Bloomington Branch Library.

Present: Marianne Abbott, Sandra Hanson, Bruce Cutting, Denise Campagna, Wayne Rendell, Catherine Hulin, Betty Markel and Libby Godwin. Dan Hutchins, director; Molly Wunderlich, associate director; Emily Leestma, children's librarian; Cheryl Bull, Bloomington branch librarian

Absent: none

It was moved to approve the agenda as mailed, (Motion: Hanson; Second: Hulin; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to approve the minutes of the April Board meeting as mailed. (Motion: Hanson; Second: Campagna; Motion: Carried).

It was moved to approve for payment the May "due to" vouchers numbers 19-05-01 through 19-05-04 in the amount of \$3,512.79; and General Fund vouchers numbers 19-05-03 through 19-05-77 in the total amount of \$151,115.04; (Motion: Campagna; Second: Markel; Motion: Carried).

Public Comment: None.

Reports :

Molly Wunderlich reviewed the financial statements for the month end April 30, 2019. The library received its first payment of State Aid in April. The second payment will be sent in August.

Dan Hutchins reviewed the written director's report. Staff professional development day is scheduled for November 11, 2019 at the Allegan District Library. The library will be submitting two grants by the end of this week. The grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts & Cultural Affairs is requesting funds for the refurbishment of the Webster location. The grant from the Library of Michigan is requesting LSTA funds to support small business training classes.

The Board discussed the possibility of going fine free. Several public libraries have announced that they will no longer charge fines for late items. They will charge patrons for items not returned within a certain amount of time. Going fine free could eliminate barriers to access, but could also discourage the timely return of materials. It was agreed to consider the possibility at a future time once Library administration conducts research and presents more information to the Library board.

Unfinished Business:

The final focus group meeting will be on June 3 at the Bangor Branch location. Mr. Hutchins will attend the annual meeting with the Bangor-area supervisors just before the focus group. After all of the focus group meetings are complete, a summary will be reported to the board.

Mr. Hutchins and Ms. Hulin had a positive discussion with Pine Grove Township officials. For past building projects, the Library has offered seed money to the local municipalities to spur a building project.

New Business:

Cheryl Bull, Bloomingdale Branch Librarian, introduced herself to the board, and explained how she had used the Bloomingdale Branch Library as a child while visiting the area. Ms. Bull is enjoying her new role with the library.

Emily Leestma, Children’s Librarian, explained changes to the summer reading program for this year. The program is four weeks longer, beginning May 28 and running through August 17. The goal is to encourage students to read more during the summer, and try to help prevent the summer slide.

The board discussed out-of-district library card fees. The current fee is \$45. Residents of Texas Township are encouraged by their home township to pay the fee rather having the township join a surrounding library district. The Library board asked Library administration to research the amount of the current non-resident fee and present a recommendation at a future Library board meeting.

Employee Changes:

It was moved to: hire Melanie Kassin as Bloomingdale Branch page at 12 hours per week; hire Kali Schneider as Bangor Branch page at 9 hours per week. (Motion: Hulin; Second: Abbott; Motion: Carried).

The next Library board meeting will take place on June 25, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. at the Covert Branch Library in Covert.

It was moved to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. (Motion: Hanson; Second: Markel; Motion: Carried).

Respectfully Submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

Recorded by Molly Wunderlich