

Attendees: Betsy Batey, Megan Bolinder, Cynthia Cochran, Matthew Moses, Michelle Stamps Pritchett, Kimberly Seay, Nathan Pollet, Judy Marquess, Patrick Heavrin, Octavio Sanchez, Vira Kousol and Hadi Dudley.

The group met via Zoom videoconferencing.

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Approval of January 6, 2021 Minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from the January 6, 2021 meeting. Cynthia Cochran moved, Megan Bolinder seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The January 6, 2021 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Hadi gave Library Updates.
 - a. American Art books were donated to Bentonville Public Library through the Alice Walton Foundation through the Arkansas State Library, in collaboration with Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art.
 - b. Personnel update – two part-time clerk positions open in circulation/reference for evening and Saturday schedule.
 - i. We hired two new staff that will join us after they pass all pre-employment screens.
 - ii. One position in Children’s department will be filling this summer.
 - c. Technology update
 - i. Public printer controls upgrade this Friday, which will eventually take credit cards and will help with mobile printing, scanning and faxing.
 - ii. Integrated Library System (ILS) migration planned: Feb. 13 – 15 and Feb. 20 – 21
 1. Library systems will be completely down for two weekends and online patron services will be unavailable, no virtual access.
 2. The system will be down on Saturday, February 13, and online services will be restored Tuesday, February 16.
 3. The second system upgrade will begin Saturday, February 20, and online services will be restored Monday, February 22.
 4. BPL will be communicating this through social media platforms
 - iii. Mobile App – beta testing complete; app will be rolled out (late February/early March)
 - iv. Meeting room / event software upgrade this spring
 - d. Virtual program offerings continue
 - i. Library is partnering with NWACC Spring Arts & Culture Festival, March 1-4
 1. Storytimes feature a “Reimagining the World” theme (various)
 2. Defining Reads: a Young Adult Book Discussion for All, March 2, at 6:00-7:15 PM
 3. Reimagining Art, a Visit with Ziba Rajabi, March 2, at 1:30-2:45 PM
 - e. Program planning – outdoor options for Spring and Summer are being explored by library staff
 - f. Library Service Awards – announced in February
 - i. Distinguished Service Award – Octavio Sanchez
 - ii. Best Friend Award – Chuck Pribbernow
 - iii. Outstanding Advocate Award – Pat Carroll

- iv. Emerging Leader Awards – Arthi & Arjun Krishna
 - 1. Pat Carroll video is being released this week, follow with Octavio, then Chuck, then the emerging leaders.
- 2. General City Updates
 - a. Bond Extension Information
 - i. February 9 – City Council consideration for Special Election
 - ii. If approved, Special Election for bond extension will be scheduled on April 13th
 - iii. If approved February 9: Extends existing 1% bond issue for City of Bentonville capital projects; it is not a new tax
 - iv. If all approved February 9: Seven city projects could be funded at \$266M; each project will have its own question
 - b. Mayor’s annual State of the City address: February 9, 2021
 - c. Two Library items for City Council to wrap up the Needs Assessment
 - i. Planned for February 23, 2021
 - ii. Agreement amendment for MSR Design’s bond option work
 - iii. Public art collage approval
 - 1. Grant funding covers both items; grant deadline March 31, 2021
 - d. Ward Meetings scheduled
 - i. Ward 1: February 25, 2021
 - ii. Ward 2: May 27, 2021
 - iii. Ward 3: August 26, 2021
 - iv. Ward 4: October 28, 2021
- 3. Judy Marquess gave the Friends of the Bentonville Library Report.
 - a. New Board of Directors for 2021-2022
 - i. Officers
 - ii. Past President
 - iii. Member-at-Large Debbie Sheetrum
 - iv. Member-at-Large Danie Jones
 - b. Continue current limited book store hours
 - c. Continue to receive donations including books from ReaderLink
 - d. Financials
 - i. Total Revenue for January \$1,657.18
 - 1. Book Store Sales
 - 2. Amazon Sales
 - 3. Memberships
 - 4. Miscellaneous
 - ii. Year-to-Date Revenue \$1,657.83
 - iii. Expenses for December \$3,237.79
 - iv. Year-to-Date Expenses \$3,237.79
- 4. Patrick Heavrin gave the Bentonville Library Foundation Report.
 - a. 2020 end-of-year totals:
 - i. 327 donations
 - ii. Dollars = \$111,319.29
 - 1. Exceeded 2020 goal by 1%
 - iii. 2020 EOY appeal goal = \$35,000
 - 1. \$43,810.32 (\$46,810.32 with \$3K match confirmed but outstanding)
 - 2. Exceeded goal by 34%

- b. 2021 totals YTD:
 - i. 100 donations
 - ii. Dollars = \$11,438.35
 - 1. Plus \$7,870 from Walmart's MLK Day of Giving
- c. February is Nat'l Library Lovers Month
 - i. The four Library Service Award recipient videos will be announced 1/week throughout February
- d. BLF's annual Donor Appreciation Luncheon has been cancelled due to Covid-19
 - i. Foundation instead sent "care package" to all Giving Society members – mailed this past Monday
- e. Booked for the Evening – hosted by BLF
 - i. Tentatively planned for late September
 - 1. Under tent on "new lawn"
 - 2. Save-the-Date to come
 - 3. Considering free event – no ticket purchase
- f. The next foundation board meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2021.
 - i. Board continues to consider fundraising support for library expansion
 - ii. Marketing & PR Committee meets February 8th
- 5. Library Needs Assessment Study – update & roundtable discussion
 - a. Participatory art project update
 - i. Community piece approved – to be installed in February
 - ii. Artist Book in design phase
 - iii. Additional art collage for exterior wall in design phase
 - iv. Virtual program planned: Reimagining Art, a Visit with Ziba Rajabi
 - b. Status update: \$15M pricing complete
 - c. Presentation on January 26, 2021 to City Council
 - d. Final report pending – consider Library Advisory Board approval/endorsement/support in March

The Library Advisory Board will meet Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 1 pm via Zoom.

Adjournment - The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 2:01 pm.