



Library Board Meeting Minutes
November 9th, 2021 5:30pm

Meeting conducted via Zoom due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Minutes by R. Burck

Board Member Attendees: Robert Burck, Karene Cary, Theresa Kim, MaryBeth Paulisse, Jean Phillips, Rose Sime, Art Waldman, Ralph Zahnow, and Cindy Zellers

Missing: None

Staff Attendance: Rebecca Light, Jocelyne Sansing

Call to Order: 5:30 pm

1. Public Comments:

- None

2. Approval of Minutes of October 12th, 2021 library board meeting (action):

Ralph Zahnow asked that the minutes from October 12, 2021 be updated to correct two attributions in the meeting minute. Robert thanked Ralph for catching these errors, and the minutes were corrected.

Motion to approve the amended minutes made by Rose Sime, seconded by Robert Burck. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the October vendor report (action):

One or more individuals did not receive this vendor report in advance of the meeting, so the Board reviewed this vendor report in more detail over the shared Zoom screen. Jocelyne will update her email list.

Rebecca Light highlighted the details of this vendor report with the Board.

Motion to approve the Vendor Report by Cindy Zellers, seconded by Art Waldman. Motion passed unanimously.

Jocelyne also reviewed the 212 Fund YTD statement with Board. No action taken.

4. Old Business

MaryBeth Paulisse highlighted an email sent by Jocelyne Sansing this week asking the Board of Trustees to create a 1-2 page personal biography. MaryBeth pointed out that these have been very fun and informative in past years and very helpful for Library staff. These biographies have also allowed the Board to get to know one another better. MaryBeth highly encouraged the Board to create and send in these biographies in the next week or two.

Art Waldman asked for an update on bussing within the City of Middleton. Robert Burck reported that the City of Madison did submit a 5-year contract to the City of Middleton (and other surrounding communities) to allow for more predictable costs on a year-to-year basis, but Robert asked for more details relating to specific bus routes. The goal of the City of Madison is to transport people to locations in Madison and back to the outlying communities. Conversely, Middleton hopes to have more transportation within the City of Middleton to allow individuals from more far-flung portions of the City of Middleton to commute to downtown Middleton and back out to the outskirts. It would also be desirable to have more bus routes running on weekends and during evening hours if possible.

At this time, Robert has not heard any firm plans for new routes, or how new routes might affect the cost of these transportation services. This is still a work-in-progress.

5. Committee Updates

- a. **Building:** On hiatus. No updates.
- b. **Development:** On hiatus. No updates.

6. Liaison Updates

- a. **City Council:** Robert Burck stated that the City of Middleton is finalizing their budget. The Common Council just held a Public Hearing on Wednesday November 3rd, where very few changes were made to the draft budget. The finalized City budget for 2022 will be approved on November 16th. Robert also informed the Board that this would be his last year as an Alder in the City of Middleton. He will fulfil his role as Alderperson until the spring elections on April 5, 2022. Thereafter, there will be someone else elected to fill the Alder position for District 2. This will mean that another Alder will also begin working with the Library Board starting in April 2022. MaryBeth Paulisse thanked Robert for his work on the Library Board and looked forward to his continued service through April.
- b. **Friends:** Art Waldman reported that the Friends meet the first Monday of each month. The Friends will be creating a Friends Liaison with the Middleton Chamber of Commerce, and may also create a Friends Liaison with the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District Education Foundation. Jocelyne Sansing stated that the Friends are also working with Jocelyne to update the Friends portion of the Library website.
- c. **MCPASD:** MaryBeth Paulisse reported that MCPASD finished the first quarter of the school year. Many younger students are now eligible for the Covid vaccine and the school is facilitating both vaccines and Covid testing for interested students. The school is continuing to require masking in the school. MaryBeth also implored that if anyone on the Board or anyone we know might be interested in driving a school bus to help kids get to and from school, the school system is in great need of individuals with a CDL to drive buses.
- d. **Community:** Jocelyne Sansing reported that the Stone Horse Green continues to bring people together and be a great community meeting place, and the library continues to support this downtown meeting spot.
- e. **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Efforts:** MaryBeth said there is a planning meeting scheduled for Thursday November 11. This small group will look for ways that the Library can support these efforts. MaryBeth will report more information from this meeting next month.

7. Director's Update / October Road Map

Jocelyne Sansing reviewed the October road map. Jocelyne shared that the Library will be working in 2022 to find ways to implement permanent Sunday Library hours starting in 2023. No other library in the area currently offers permanent Sunday hours year-round, so this will take some planning. Mayor Brar thanked Jocelyne for pursuing this goal and encouraged the Middleton Library to be a leader in this area.

October was a busy programming month with 93 programs and over 2000 attendees!

The Library is experimenting with different ways of gathering and of using the building. Open areas of the library are being used as social spaces within the Library. An example of this is weekly Dungeons and Dragons role-playing games played in the open space at the Library. This has been a very popular program with teens. There was also great turnout for pumpkin carving, and many individuals stated that they had never done this before.

The Library is also reconnecting with outside partners to offer additional services at the library, such as a partnership with CI Pediatrics Therapy Center.

There are continuing audits of the Library's book collections, which is helping the Library to better control their inventory and to allow the Library to rotate-in holiday books for the various holidays.

Amy has been very busy visiting the 2nd grade students at the schools to get them engaged with the Library.

Jocelyne stated that she and the City HR Director plan to post a job opening for the Assistant Library Director position later in November. The Library also welcomed three new Page staff recently.

The Library is currently accepting applications for the first ever Christensen Family Art Gallery for a 2022 exhibit.

8. New Business:

Cindy Zellers highly recommended the use of Hoopla audio books for those of us who have not tried using this service yet. It is fantastic!

9. Adjourn: Motion by Art Waldman to adjourn, seconded by Karene Cary at 6:30 PM. Motion passed unanimously.