

**MINUTES OF THE BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Bloomfield Township Public Library
Oakland County, Michigan
Tuesday, December 15, 2020
Held via Zoom

At 7:00 p.m. the Regular Meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by President Judy Lindstrom.

Trustees Present: (via Zoom) Tom Deska, Sandra Edwards, Grant Gerhart, Danielle Gillman, Judy Lindstrom, and Joan Luksik

Trustees Absent: None

Administration: (via Zoom) Director Carol Mueller, Assistant Director Tera Moon, and Administrative Assistant Linden Godlove

Guests: (via Zoom), Nicole Gillies, Youth Services Librarian and SOC representative, Matt Binkowski, Bloomfield Township resident and Ryan Noyes, Bloomfield Township resident

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Grant Gerhart and seconded by Sandy Edwards **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE REGULAR AND CONSENT AGENDAS**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Deska, Edwards, Gerhart, Gillman, Lindstrom, and Luksik

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

PRESIDENT'S VERBAL REPORT:

President Judy Lindstrom remarked that this is a very emotional season, as it is so joy-filled, but one also remembers loved ones here and gone. It is a time of laughter and hope. She learned her love of quotations from her father. She shared one by William Arthur Ward: "Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings." She saw this as "a great symbol of what we are doing and what we try to do at the Library and what we try to do daily in our lives." She applauds the Board of Trustees for meeting and interviewing so many applicants who were all exemplary candidates. It had been a difficult decision, with such experienced people interested in joining the Board; however President Lindstrom believes they selected the perfect person for the library's needs and the needs of the Board. She introduced the newest member

of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees, Danielle Gillman.

Dani Gillman shared that she is originally from Los Angeles, but has “lived here long enough that she feels like a Detroiter.” She loves being a part of local community, where there is a good chunk of diversity, and there is so much to learn from each other. When asked what the library means to her, she expressed that libraries are the “last place where everybody is equal, where everybody is measured by the same stick, with equal access to resources and education, and opportunities to discover new things and broaden horizons. Libraries are a place to connect and share common interests. She expressed that libraries and equal access to them are very special to her and she wishes to continue to make that possible for the next generation to come.

President Lindstrom shared a letter from Director Mueller which announced the Director’s retirement effective May 1, 2021.

Director Mueller expressed further what a joy it has been to serve at the Bloomfield Township Public Library. She thanked everyone for their support and guidance throughout the years.

The Personnel Committee will begin the process of finding the next Director.

DIRECTOR’S VERBAL REPORT:

Director Mueller gave an update on the phases of the library’s service. A Library employee tested positive to the virus and the Library subsequently closed for deep cleaning, from Friday, November 27 through Tuesday, November 30. Patrons placed over 800 holds during this closure. This was all for curbside pickup, demonstrating a great need for this service. Director Mueller and Assistant Director Moon helped to deliver materials to vehicles, as it was a day with all hands on deck to ensure the patrons were served well and as quickly as possible. The Director believes the decision to limit services to Curbside, phone, and online is the best way to help keep everyone safe and healthy. The Library has received great positive feedback from patrons and some of this was shared, including some hand-drawn cards with cheerful messages from very young patrons.

Director Mueller sends her warm wishes for a wonderful holiday season and hopes everyone enjoys it in the ways that they can.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Call to the Public:

Nicole Gillies, representing the SOC, wished all a happy holiday season. Bloomfield Township residents Matt Binkowski and Ryan Noyes had no comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

11a. Election of Officers

President Lindstrom thanked the Nominating Committee, Sandy Edwards and Joan Luksik, for creating a slate of officers for the year. The Committee met to discuss what had been occurring and what the future might be. They suggested carrying forth as it has been. There were no nominations from the floor. The Trustees elected the following officers to serve the 2020-21 term: Judy Lindstrom, President; Grant Gerhart, Vice President; Sandy Edwards, Secretary.

For Secretary Sandy Edwards

Ayes: Deska, Edwards, Gerhart, Gillman, Lindstrom, and Luksik

Nays: None

For Vice President Grant Gerhardt

Ayes: Deska, Edwards, Gerhart, Gillman, Lindstrom, and Luksik

Nays: None

For President Judy Lindstrom

Ayes: Deska, Edwards, Gerhart, Gillman, Lindstrom, and Luksik

Nays: None

11b. Board of Trustees Standing Committees

Judy Lindstrom announced that there will be an appointment of committees for the 2021 term. New appointments to committees were reviewed and discussed.

Art Committee: Dani Gillman and Judy Lindstrom

Advocacy Committee (renamed from "Bloomfield Twp. Liaison"): Sandy Edwards and Judy Lindstrom

Building and Grounds Committee ("Landscaping, Interiors" removed from title) All

Cranbrook, DPL, Troy Committee: Grant Gerhart and Joan Luksik

Development Committee: All

Finance Committee: Tom Deska and Joan Luksik

Friends of the Library Liaison Committee: Sandy Edwards and Dani Gillman

Investment Committee: All

Jeanette P. Myers Scholarship Selection Committee: Tom Deska and Grant Gerhart

Personnel/Director Evaluation Committee: Sandy Edwards and Judy Lindstrom

Policy Committee: Tom Deska and Grant Gerhart

11c. PA 152

Michigan Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, requires public employees to contribute to their health insurance costs. This Act gives public employers three options to choose for funding health care costs, however (1) the hard cap option or (2) the 80/20 option are the only options the Library Board may select.

Each December, the Library Board must decide which of the available options to implement for the next fiscal year.

It is recommended by Administration to adopt Option 2, known as the 80/20 Option, because it provides a slightly lower health care cost for library employees. The Personnel Committee supports this recommendation also.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Sandy Edwards seconded by Tom Deska **TO ADOPT THE 80/20 OPTION, AS STATED IN PA 152, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Deska, Edwards, Gerhart, Gillman, Lindstrom, and Luksik

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

OTHER:

Trustee Sandy Edwards reported on the Wednesday, December 2 Friends Board Meeting, which was conducted via Zoom. Their revised bylaws were reviewed by an attorney, with minimal changes proposed. Secretary Kim Hoke reported the book and media giveaway to staff was a great success, with carts full of free books, DVDs, CDs, games, and more being placed in the Administration Hallway for staff to choose from. The Friends are planning a project to clean and pare the Book Nook in preparation for an abundance of donations when they are able to receive these again. Director Mueller submitted a Wish List for review, totaling \$11,660, which includes materials for Art Lab (a tween program that provides hands-on art exploration), Hoopla Digital (a platform that provides streaming digital media), as well as special collections of Youth and Adult books. The Friends supported use of \$2,500 for a permanent story walk in collaboration with the Johnson Nature Center. The Friends next meeting is January 6 at 10:30am.

Comments were made on the special library borrowing agreements between Cranbrook Educational Community, Detroit Public Library and Troy Public Library. The agreements were renewed last year with a 3 year agreement.

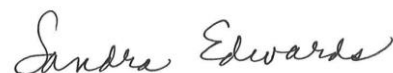
Remarks were made on the number of library directors retiring in the area.

The next Library Board Meeting will be Tuesday, January 19 at 7 p.m. The Building and Grounds will tomorrow, December 16 at 2pm

President Lindstrom wished everyone the happiest of holidays.

At 7:37 p.m. President Judy Lindstrom adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by:



Sandra Edwards, Secretary