

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

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Bloomfield Township Public Library  
Oakland County, Michigan  
Tuesday, June 15, 2021

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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: Tom Deska, Sandra Edwards, Grant Gerhart, Dani Gillman, Judy Lindstrom, and Joan Luksik

Trustees Absent: None

Administration: Director Tera Moon, Administrative Assistant Linden Godlove

Guests: Daniella Bryant, Circulation Clerk and SOC representative; Youth Services Librarian Patricia Ballard; Adult Services Librarian Jamie Jasper

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Joan Luksik requested **7a – Check Disbursements** be removed from the consent agenda for regular discussion.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Grant Gerhart and seconded by Tom Deska **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS AS LISTED ON THE AGENDAS WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: 7a**

*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 announced this is the sixth month of 2021. She observed how fast time flies and one must appreciate every moment. She shared an anecdote of a friends’ child asking how many seconds are in a day, which had to be looked up, because “Right now a day seems to last forever.” As you are older, the days seem to fly by. President Lindstrom noted that this is the halfway mark of the year, and we have done such great things in 2020 and 2021. She exhorted all to take “every minute and every second you have and appreciate it.”

**DIRECTOR’S VERBAL REPORT:**

Director Moon has been doing a lot of reflecting on this time last year, when staff just returned to the building after being home for three months and the Library first opened to

curbside service. This summer also feels like a return as services are expanded a bit more with one hour permitted and some seating added back to the Library. Preparations are being made for the next phases of reopening.

She attended the MLA strategic planning workshop on May 26. Tom Deska and Sandy Edwards also attended. Tom thought it was a good way to get “our head into the process” as goals are considered and how to get to them is mapped out. Sandy Edwards said it was a good refresher. She also saw different ways to conduct strategic planning. “A clear vision is needed when strategic planning.”

The Friends held their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 9. Director Moon was honored to be the guest speaker in her new role as Library Director. The Friends made an exciting announcement about their first sale planned for Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17 to clear out old stock. Donations will be accepted starting August 2, three days a week to start. Their goal is to return to second Saturday sales in September. Director Moon reviewed details on how the Friends’ news will be promoted.

Director Moon was also honored to be interviewed by Bloomfield Township Supervisor Dani Walsh on “Bloomfield in Focus” produced by BCTV. Alan Jaros, the director of the Bowers Farms and Johnson Nature Center, was also a guest. All three are new in their positions so they discussed their roles and partnerships including the recently installed story walk at the Nature Center. There is also a special event at Bowers Farms this weekend: Open Barn Partner Day with story times, a scavenger hunt, and more.

The Library Ambassadors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 27 at 7pm. At the March 23 meeting several topics were suggested for future meetings, including marketing and outreach to specific populations, particularly people in their 20s and 30s--or the Millennial generation. The strategic planning timeline will begin in January 2022. It will be reviewed if the ambassadors are interested in participating in that process.

Director Moon shared a card from a patron expressing their appreciation for services during the Pandemic.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Tom Deska seconded by Dani Gillman to **APPROVE THE REMAINING ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

*A vote was taken for approval of the motion.*

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

*Nays: None*

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **REGULAR AGENDA:**

### ***Call to the Public:***

Daniella Bryant, representing the SOC and incoming treasurer, gave a report. The SOC is working with Director Moon to create team building and morale boosting activities for this

summer.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**11a. Summer Reading Showcase**

One of a public library's most basic functions is to support literacy throughout the community. A highly tangible way that happens is through summer reading programs. Reading throughout the summer helps mitigate that infamous "summer slide". Summer slide refers to the loss of knowledge in reading and math during the summer break. To encourage kids to keep reading while they are not in school, library staff plan creative programs, games, and other incentives. They also help readers choose new books to read through book talks, reading lists by grade, and personalized recommendations.

This year, summer reading takes on a new importance. As a very difficult and unusual school year ends, summer reading can provide a touchstone of normalcy and a safe activity for families to participate in together as the community emerges from the pandemic.

Jamie Jasper, Adult Services librarian, and Patricia Ballard, Youth Services librarian, shared what they and their colleagues have planned to engage readers of all ages to engage with books and reading through the summer months using the theme "Tales and Tails."

The librarians talked about craft kits, scavenger hunts, virtual escape rooms, and more, as well as how they will promote these offerings.

A pandemic positive is that they have been able to reach more students via Zoom than are often reached about library offerings.

**11b. Library Reopening Policy Review and Update**

This policy was adopted one year ago in June 2020, as required by the MDHHS, just as library staff returned to the library building and prepared to offer in-person library service. At that time, there was not a vaccine available, and it was not known when one would be available.

Vaccines have been in use since January 2021, and many people have been fully vaccinated against the virus that causes COVID-19. That has impacted the State of Michigan's reopening guidance and in turn the library's reopening policy. On June 1, masks were no longer mandated.

Director Moon reviewed the latest orders from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and rules from the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration which impact the Library's reopening policy. She updated the Board on current operations and a tentative plan for the remainder of 2021.

## **12. DISCUSSION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

7a (page 12 from the Board Packet) was raised in discussion by Joan Luksik. She wanted to know about the check to Farmington Community Library. Farmington Community Library is the fiduciary agent for Metronet, a consortium of libraries in the southeast Michigan area, which shares expenses for Overdrive. Overdrive is a digital distributor of eBooks, audiobooks, online magazines, and streaming video titles. Joan Luksik also inquired about the HVAC upgrade in Local History.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Joan Luksik, seconded by Tom Deska **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDAS.**

*A vote was taken for approval of the motion.*

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

*Nays: None*

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **OTHER:**

Trustee Dani Gillman reported on the Wednesday, June 2 Friends Board Meeting, which was conducted via Zoom. The Annual Meeting was on June 9. The Friends currently have 216 members, and their membership is down. Through grants, generous donations, and increases in membership levels has aided the Friends finances. An explanation of the distribution of Wish List funds was made. The reopening process was discussed. There were four Board members that were elected and reelected. The Friends' next meeting will be July 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Tera Moon shared that the Library Shop has reopened for a few hours a day, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The next Library Board Meeting will be Tuesday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m.

At 7:51 p.m. President Judy Lindstrom adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by:



Sandra Edwards, Secretary