

Bloomfield Township Public

Library

**Bloomfield Township Public Library
Board of Trustees**

Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 20, 2024
7:00 p.m.

Board Room

Trustees:

libraryboard@btpl.org

Dani Gillman, President
Judy Lindstrom, Vice President
Joan Luksik, Secretary
Keith Carduner
Joy Murray
Shane Spradlin

Director:

Tera Moon

moontera@btpl.org

All meetings are open to the public.

1099 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Township, MI 48302 248.642.5800

THE PLACE TO

DISCOVER

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LIBRARY BOARD INFORMATION PACKETS**

List of Contents

Items included in pre-board delivery for the REGULAR BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED
Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

#	<u>NUMBERED ITEMS</u>	<u>DATE DELIVERED</u>
1	Agenda	02/16/2024
2a	Request to remove items from the consent agenda for discussion	02/16/2024
2b	Motion to approve the order of items for the regular and consent agendas	02/16/2024
5	Motion to approve remaining consent agenda items 6-8d	02/16/2024
6	Regular board meeting minutes of January 16, 2024	02/16/2024
7a	Cash Disbursements	02/16/2024
7b	Revenues/Expenditures Budget Report	02/16/2024
7c	Energy Report	02/16/2024
8a	President's Report– no report	
8b	Director's Report	02/16/2024
8c	Art Committee –no report	
8c	Advocacy Committee – no report	
8c	Ambassadors Group – 01/23/2024	02/16/2024
8c	Building and Grounds Committee – no report	
8c	Cranbrook –no report	
8c	Development Committee – no report	
8c	Finance Committee– no report	
8c	Friends of the Library Liaison – no report	
8c	Jeanette P. Myers Scholarship Committee – no report	
8c	Investment Committee – no report	
8c	Personnel Committee – 02/08/2024	02/16/2024
8c	Policy Committee – no report	
10a	Bylaws Review	02/16/2024
11a	Review of Budget Documents	02/16/2024
11b	Update to Solicitation Guidelines	02/16/2024
13	Motion to approve any items removed from the consent agenda	02/16/2024
	 <u>UNNUMBERED ITEMS</u>	 <u>DATE DELIVERED</u>
	Strategic Plan Update	02/16/2024
	Marketing Report	02/16/2024
	Press Mentions	02/16/2024
	Youth Services Events Calendar	02/16/2024
	Adult and Teen Services Events Calendar	02/16/2024
	Dates for Library Board of Trustees	02/16/2024

AGENDA
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Regular Board Meeting
7:00 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS #1-5

1. Call to order of regular meeting
- 2a. Request to remove items from the consent agenda for discussion
- 2b. MOTION to approve the order of items for the regular and consent agendas
3. President's Verbal Report
4. Director's Verbal Report
5. MOTION to approve the remaining consent agenda items 6-8d

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #6-8d
Items removed will be discussed under Item #12

6. Regular Board meeting minutes of January 16, 2024
7. Budget
 - a. Cash Disbursements
 - b. Monthly Revenues & Expenditures
 - c. Energy Report
8. Written Reports:
 - a. President: *Dani Gillman
 - b. Director: *Tera Moon
 - c. Committee:
 - *Art Committee *Ad Hoc*
 - *Bloomfield Township Liaison
 - *Building and Grounds
 - *Cranbrook
 - *Development
 - *Finance
 - *Friends of the Library Liaison
 - *Investment
 - *Jeanette P. Myers Scholarship Selection
 - *Personnel
 - *Policy

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

9. Call to the public, communications
10. Unfinished Business
 - a. Bylaws Review
11. New Business
 - a. Review of Budget Documents
 - b. Update to Solicitation Guidelines
12. Discussion of items removed from the Consent Agenda
13. MOTION to approve any items removed from the consent agenda
14. Other
15. Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 2024
16. Executive Session regarding Library Director Performance Review and Contract
17. Adjournment

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

**REQUEST TO REMOVE ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA
FOR DISCUSSION**

I REQUEST THAT ITEM (S):

**BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION
DURING REGULAR AGENDA ITEM 12.**

If amended, CONSENT AGENDA items will be moved to REGULAR AGENDA ITEM #12 for discussion and REGULAR AGENDA ITEM #13 for approval.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS FOR THE REGULAR
AND CONSENT AGENDAS**

OPTION - NO AMENDMENT NEEDED:

I move to approve the order of items as listed on the REGULAR and CONSENT AGENDAS as presented.

OPTION - AMENDMENT TO AGENDA:

I move to approve the order of items as listed on the AGENDAS, with the following items to be moved from

the **REGULAR AGENDA** as follows:

the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

If amended, CONSENT AGENDA items will be moved to REGULAR AGENDA ITEM #12 for discussion and REGULAR AGENDA ITEM #13 for approval.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS MOTION

I move to approve the remaining items on the consent agenda.

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

Bloomfield Township Public Library
Oakland County, Michigan
Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Library Board Room

At 7:01 p.m. the Regular Meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order by President Dani Gillman.

Trustees Present: Keith Carduner, Danielle Gillman, Judy Lindstrom, Joy Murray, and Shane Spradlin

Trustees Absent: Joan Luksik

Administration: Library Director Tera Moon; Finance Coordinator Monica Gower;
Administrative Assistant Linden Godlove

Guests: Circulation Clerk and SOC representative Laura Norman, and Circulation Department Head Anna Pelepchuk

Shane Spradlin and Keith Carduner requested **7A and 7B** be removed from the consent agenda for regular discussion.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Judy Lindstrom, seconded by Joy Murray **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS AS LISTED ON THE AGENDAS WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: 7A and 7B**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Carduner, Gillman, Lindstrom, Murray, and Spradlin

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

PRESIDENT'S VERBAL REPORT:

President Dani Gillman wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year. It will be an exciting year at the Library with the millage renewal vote in February and the Trustees re-election on the ballot in November. The photo contest has also been underway, adding to the anticipation of the year.

DIRECTOR'S VERBAL REPORT:

Director Tera Moon reported that it is always difficult to determine if it is safe to keep the Library open or close it due to weather. The Library remained open on Friday; however, the roads were treacherous. On Saturday, the poor weather conditions continued, and it was

decided that the Library would close.

The minimum wage increased January 1, 2024 from \$10.10 to \$10.33. Director Moon explained the impact this has on staff wages.

Director Moon provided an update about millage renewal information. There will be four opportunities for residents to attend an information session with the Director and hear details and ask questions: January 17 and February 15 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on both days. Early voting starts February 17.

The Ambassadors Group will meet on Tuesday, January 23. The millage renewal proposal and strategic plan updates will be reviewed.

The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) is launching a series of public meetings in Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne counties as well as online sessions beginning next week to gather feedback. One of the meetings will be held at the Library.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Joy Murray, seconded by Keith Carduner **TO APPROVE THE REMAINING ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Carduner, Gillman, Lindstrom, Murray, and Spradlin

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR AGENDA:

Call to the public.

Laura Norman, representing the SOC, shared updates.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

10a. Bylaws Review

The primary goal of the discussion is to ensure a common understanding of the bylaws. This is an opportunity to understand how and why the Board operates the way it does.

This month Article III, Sections 1-8 was discussed. This Article establishes when the Board of Trustees meets and how frequently; defines a quorum; tells us what to do if there isn't a quorum; and other items relating to attendance of meetings.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

11a. Fines & Fees Fiscal Year 2024/2025

The Department Heads and Administration conducted an annual review of the Library's Fines and Fees schedule in preparation for completing the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 library budget. This schedule is the summary table of the restrictions and costs associated with borrowing library materials and use of library services at Bloomfield Township Public Library. This year, it is proposed to eliminate all overdue fines, which represent a large portion of the schedule. Other

changes include edits for clarity, consistency, and streamlining, as well as a revision of the page devoted to Downloadables.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Joy Murray, seconded by Judy Lindstrom **TO APPROVE THE FY 2024-2025 SCHEDULE OF FINES & FEES AS PRESENTED WITH IMPLEMENTATION TO BEGIN ON APRIL 1, 2024.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Carduner, Gillman, Lindstrom, Murray, and Spradlin

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

12. DISCUSSION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

- Trustee Shane Spradlin removed 7a. He asked what Augies Building Services is. Moon reported it is janitorial services. He asked what Innovative Interfaces is. Director Moon reported it is a software firm that creates the integrated library system (ILS).
- Trustee Shane Spradlin removed 7b. He asked for clarification in evaluating the Library's financial performance. Director Moon reviewed this with the group and promised to consider other ways of presenting this information.
- Also on 7b Trustee Shane Spradlin asked when the Library's investments would be reviewed for a greater return. Director Moon reported it is a goal for the next fiscal year.
- Trustee Keith Carduner on 7a requested more information about the expenditure to Innovative Interfaces. Director Moon explained the expenditure is for the ILS. He wanted clarification on when an item is reviewed and approved by the Board. This item had been listed in the budget, which the Board had approved.

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Judy Lindstrom, seconded by Joy Murray **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDAS.**

A vote was taken for approval of the motion.

Ayes: Carduner, Gillman, Lindstrom, Murray, and Spradlin

Nays: None

OTHER:

There was discussion of the sculpture donated recently.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, 2024. The Director's Evaluation will be discussed.

At 8:22 p.m. President Gillman adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Lindstrom". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Judy Lindstrom, Vice President

Proposed

Bloomfield Township Public Library**Cash Disbursements Comments
January 2024****New Vendors:**

- Chris Edwards
- The Motley Misfits
- Janice Burnett
- Taste: a Cook's Place LLC
- Barbara Gulley

General Fund – Advance Checks:

- Check #23668 made payable to Consumers Energy in the amount of \$6,294.19 was payment for natural gas service for the period 12/5 to 1/5.
- Check #23669 made payable to DTE Energy in the amount of \$21,386.01 was payment for electrical service for the period 12/8-1/9.

General Fund – Regular Checks:

- Check #23682 made payable to American Library Association in the amount of \$674.00 was payment for an organizational membership.
- Check #23683 made payable to All-City Mechanical & Refrigeration in the amount of \$281.50 was payment for repairs to the ice machine in the Community Room kitchen.
- Check #23684 made payable to Ask Services in the amount of \$1,032.00 was payment for a title search as part of the drainage improvement project.
- Check #23686 made payable to Augies Building Services in the amount of \$12,744.95 was payment for one month of janitorial services.
- Check #23690 made payable to Bloomfield Township in the amount of \$1,213.27 was payment for water service for the period 12/18-1/22.
- Check #23691 made payable to Bloomfield Township in the amount of \$324,468.84 was payment for two payrolls including FICA, health insurance, etc.
- Check #23695 made payable to Christopher Kimball's Milk Street Magazine in the amount of \$39.95 was payment for a magazine subscription.

- Check #23698 made payable to Envisionware, Inc. in the amount of \$13,090.82 was payment for a maintenance contract for software and hardware related to self-checks and ecommerce.
- Check #23699 made payable to Farmington Community Library in the amount of \$9,475.53 was payment for databases subscribed to through Metro Net including Data Axle and several Gale databases.
- Check #23700 made payable to Foster Swift in the amount of \$23.50 was payment for legal services.
- Check #23706 made payable to Innovative Interfaces, Inc in the amount of \$18,583.98 was payment for two invoices related to the upgrade to Vega and proration of Encore. (I have more information about this expenditure that I will share during the meeting.)
- Check #23707 made payable to LJ Rolls Refrigeration Co., Inc in the amount of \$8,373.37 was payment for four invoices for a repair to a water heater (\$290.00), repairs to the HVAC (\$6,839.87) including replacement of humidifier canisters (\$916.00), and inspection of the sump pumps and lift station (\$327.50).
- Check #23710 made payable to Midwest Tape in the amount of \$46,318.10 was payment for various DVDs and an advance digital payment for hoopla. These purchases are in the purview of the librarians and were budgeted. Midwest Tape is the sole source vendor for hoopla and our primary vendor for media. This is a recurring expenditure.
- Check #23711 made payable to Michigan Library Association in the amount of \$1,445.00 was payment for a workshop fee.
- Check #23714 made payable to Oakland Community College in the amount of \$65.00 was payment for a MeLCat item not returned by one of our patrons.
- Check #23716 made payable to Plymouth District Library in the amount of \$12.00 was payment for a MeLCat item lost by one of our patrons.
- Check #23719 made payable to Proquest-CSA LLC in the amount of \$5,024.21 was payment for a subscription to the Historical New York Times database.
- Check #23723 made payable to Spalding DeDecker in the amount of \$399.00 was payment for work done on the drainage improvement project.
- Check #23724 made payable to Tech Logic Corp. in the amount of \$22,297.00 was payment for the service agreement for the automated materials handler (a machine that checks in and sorts library materials being returned by patrons).

- Check #23725 made payable to The Flying Locksmith, Detroit North in the amount of \$646.07 was payment for purchase of prox cards for door access and additional keys.
- Check #23726 made payable to The Library Network in the amount of \$4,003.63 was payment for two invoices for hardware (\$1,088.00) and quarterly payment for internet service (\$2,915.63).
- Check #23727 made payable to Thomas E. Fleschner Memorial Library in the amount of \$20.00 was payment for a MeLCat item lost by one of our patrons.

Gift Fund - Advance Checks:

- Check #5492 made payable to Barbara Gulley in the amount of \$350.00 was payment for a program presenter.
- Check #5494 made payable to Janice Burnett in the amount of \$300.00 was payment for a program presenter.
- Check #5495 made payable to Taste: A Cook's Place LLC in the amount of \$300.00 was payment for a program presenter.
- Check #5497 made payable to Chris Edwards in the amount of \$100.00 was payment for a program presenter.
- Check #5498 made payable to Scott Nelson in the amount of \$150.00 was for piano tuning.
- Check #5499 made payable to The Motley Misfits in the amount of \$325.00 was payment for a program presenter.

Gift Fund - Regular Checks:

- Check #5501 made payable to Demco Inc. in the amount of \$2,107.00 was for book carts.
- Check #5502 made payable to Janway Company in the amount of \$471.98 was for branded bags for kits.
- Check #5503 made payable to TMC Furniture Inc. in the amount of \$2,147.70 was for a play table in Youth Services.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHECK REGISTERS
FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024**

Check #	Date	Payee	Cash Account	Amount
General Fund				
ADVANCE CHECKS:				
23665	1/10/24	LOWE'S	016.01	42.23
23666	1/10/24	TERMINIX PROCESSING CTR.	016.01	171.00
23667	1/18/24	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	016.01	3,058.42
23668	1/18/24	CONSUMERS ENERGY	016.01	6,294.19
23669	1/18/24	DTE ENERGY	016.01	21,386.01
23670	1/18/24	PRESIDIO NETWORK SOLUTIONS GROUP, LLC	016.01	2,360.00
23671	1/18/24	PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	016.01	848.55
23672	1/18/24	VIGILANTE SECURITY	016.01	1,950.00
23674	1/25/24	FLAGSTAR BANK	016.01	2,706.66
23675	1/31/24	APPLIED INNOVATION	016.01	627.50
23676	1/31/24	AT&T	016.01	727.64
23678	1/31/24	PTS Communications	016.01	78.00
23679	1/31/24	TERMINIX PROCESSING CTR.	016.01	171.00
23680	1/31/24	XFINITY	016.01	85.50
23681	2/5/24	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	016.01	2,132.87
Total				42639.57
REGULAR CHECKS:				
23682	2/12/24	AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	016.01	674.00
23683	2/12/24	ALL-CITY MECHANICAL & REFRIGERATION	016.01	281.50
23684	2/12/24	ASK Services	016.01	1,032.00
23685	2/12/24	ASSA ABLOY ENTRANCE SOLUTIONS	016.01	1,008.81
23686	2/12/24	AUGIES BUILDING SERVICES	016.01	12,744.95
23687	2/12/24	AUNALYTICS, INC.	016.01	2,781.43
23688	2/12/24	BAKER & TAYLOR, INC.	016.01	10,597.76
23690	2/12/24	BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	016.01	1,213.27
23691	2/12/24	BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	016.01	324,468.84
23692	2/12/24	CENGAGE LEARNING/GALE	016.01	867.12
23693	2/12/24	CENTER POINT PUBLISHING	016.01	58.42
23694	2/12/24	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC.	016.01	436.70
23695	2/12/24	Christopher Kimball's	016.01	39.95
23696	2/12/24	CINTAS CORPORATION	016.01	226.41
23697	2/12/24	DEMCO, INC.	016.01	381.20
23698	2/12/24	ENVISIONWARE, INC.	016.01	13,090.82
23699	2/12/24	FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY	016.01	9,475.53
23700	2/12/24	FOSTER SWIFT	016.01	23.50
23701	2/12/24	FOUNDRY	016.01	25.00
23702	2/12/24	GAYLORD BROTHERS, INC.	016.01	248.12
23703	2/12/24	U.S Govt. Publishing Office	016.01	58.00
23704	2/12/24	GREAT OAKS MAINTENANCE	016.01	3,600.00
23705	2/12/24	INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES	016.01	29.98
23706	2/12/24	INNOVATIVE INTERFACE, INC	016.01	18,583.98
23707	2/12/24	LJ ROLLS REFRIGERATION CO., INC	016.01	8,373.37
23708	2/12/24	MERGENT, INC.	016.01	730.00
23709	2/12/24	MICROMARKETING LLC	016.01	552.89
23710	2/12/24	MIDWEST TAPE	016.01	46,318.10
23711	2/12/24	MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	016.01	1,445.00
23712	2/12/24	THE NEW YORK TIMES	016.01	2,303.60
23713	2/12/24	NICHOLS/NETWORK SERVICES CO	016.01	1,968.82
23714	2/12/24	OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	016.01	65.00
23715	2/12/24	OVERDRIVE	016.01	11,125.49
23716	2/12/24	PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY	016.01	12.00
23717	2/12/24	PRESIDIO NETWORK SOLUTIONS GROUP, LLC	016.01	196.02
23718	2/12/24	PRIORITY WASTE, LLC	016.01	368.58
23719	2/12/24	PROQUEST-CSA LLC	016.01	5,024.21
23720	2/12/24	THE ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD PUBLISHING GRP	016.01	237.98
23721	2/12/24	SCHOOL SPECIALTY LLC	016.01	1,729.66
23722	2/12/24	SHOWCASES	016.01	1,486.43
23723	2/12/24	Spalding Dedecker	016.01	399.00
23724	2/12/24	TECH LOGIC CORP.	016.01	22,297.00
23725	2/12/24	THE FLYING LOCKSMITH, DETROIT NORTH	016.01	646.07
23726	2/12/24	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	016.01	4,003.63
23727	2/12/24	Thomas E. Fleschner Memorial Library	016.01	20.00

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHECK REGISTERS
FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024**

Check #	Date	Payee	Cash Account	Amount
23728	2/12/24	THOMSON REUTERS	016.01	183.12
23729	2/12/24	THOMSON REUTERS- WEST	016.01	155.74
23730	2/12/24	TOTAL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.	016.01	404.00
23731	2/12/24	UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.	016.01	295.50
23732	2/12/24	UNIVERSITY PRODUCTS, INC.	016.01	189.37
23733	2/12/24	WOLTERS KLUWER	016.01	217.89
23734	2/12/24	WORLD BOOK, INC.	016.01	299.94

**Bloomfield Township Public Library
FY 2023-2024 General Fund Budget**

PRESENTED: FEBRUARY 20, 2024 FOR THE MONTH OF: JANUARY, 2024

ACCOUNT NAME	2023-2024		2023-2024		Ten Months 83.3%		
	ADOPTED BUDGET	AMENDED BUDGET	REVENUE/EXPENSE	REVENUE/EXPENSE	% OF BUDGET		
	AS OF MARCH 21, 2023	AS OF AUGUST 15, 2023	CURRENT MONTH	YTD	YTD	VARIANCE	
Revenues							
Taxes	\$8,578,936	\$8,678,895	\$4,027,665	\$5,119,772	58.99%	(\$3,559,123)	*Tax receipts are still being received
Penal Fines	\$71,695	\$71,695	\$0	\$59,359	82.79%	(\$12,336)	
State Aid	\$40,800	\$40,800	\$0	\$44,876	109.99%	\$4,076	
Circulation Fines & Fees	\$25,500	\$25,500	\$2,840	\$22,424	87.94%	(\$3,076)	
Charges for Services	\$14,866	\$14,866	\$251	\$9,425	63.40%	(\$5,441)	*Photocopying/printing is trending down; Room rentals are not back to pre-pandemic levels
Investment earnings	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$35,725	\$465,936	931.87%	\$415,936	
Miscellaneous	\$34,566	\$34,566	\$268	\$43,437	125.66%	\$8,871	
Total Revenues	\$8,816,363	\$8,916,322	\$4,066,749	\$5,765,229	64.66%	(\$3,151,093)	*This is normal as tax receipts are still being received.
Expenditures							
Personnel	\$4,977,239	\$4,977,239	\$322,273	\$3,870,548	77.76%	(\$1,106,691)	
Library Services	\$823,309	\$830,600	\$95,043	\$629,551	75.79%	(\$201,049)	
Facilities & Equipment	\$1,058,879	\$1,143,872	\$109,530	\$1,014,742	88.71%	(\$129,130)	*Catching up on needed maintenance; spending will be slowed through rest of fiscal year
Other Operating Expenditures	\$3,769,582	\$3,778,363	(\$2,619)	\$551,733	14.60%	(\$3,226,630)	*Parking lot project revised and delayed
Total Expenditures	\$10,629,009	\$10,730,074	\$524,227	\$6,066,574	56.54%	(\$4,663,500)	*Overall, expenditures are under the projections, mostly due to the parking lot project change.
Fund Balance - Beginning	\$13,833,927	\$13,833,927		\$13,833,927			
Net revenue (expenditure)	(\$1,812,646)	(\$1,813,752)		(\$301,345)			
Fund Balance - Ending	\$12,021,281	\$12,020,175		\$13,532,582			

Fund Balance Designations

Nonspendable-Prepaid Expense	\$18,791	\$18,791
Committed Fund Balance (is 8-months of operational expenditures amount)	\$4,740,729	\$4,802,251
Assigned Fund Balance (is \$482,971 the 3/31/23 compensated absences accrual, plus \$1,726,920 the OPEB obligation plus \$3,517,916 for capital improvements)	\$7,161,761	\$7,099,133
Unassigned Fund Balance (is the unplanned emergency amount)	\$100,000	\$100,000

**Bloomfield Township Public Library
FY 2023-2024 Gift Fund Budget**

PRESENTED: FEBRUARY 20, 2024 FOR THE MONTH OF: JANUARY, 2024

Ten Months 83.3%

ACCOUNT NAME	2023-2024 ADOPTED BUDGET AS OF MAR 21, 2023	2023-2024 AMENDED BUDGET AS OF FEB 20, 2024	REVENUE/ EXPENSE CURRENT MONTH	REVENUE/ EXPENSE YTD	% OF BUDGET YTD	VARIANCE
<u>Revenues</u>						
Gift Income	\$500	\$76,031	\$16,593	\$92,507	121.67%	\$16,476
Gift Revenue	\$0	\$2,870	\$217	\$2,870	100.00%	\$0
Friends of the Library	\$0	\$66,722	\$16,376	\$83,098	124.54%	\$16,376
Atkinson Trust	\$0	\$1,452	\$0	\$1,452	100.00%	\$0
BTPL Endowment Fund/Amber Trust	\$0	\$1,958	\$0	\$2,058	0.00%	\$100
Myers Scholarship	\$500	\$1,221	\$0	\$1,221	100.00%	\$0
Smith Challenge Grant	\$0	\$1,808	\$0	\$1,808	100.00%	\$0
Fair Radom Garden's Endowment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$0
Library Director's Legacy Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0
Investment Earnings	\$200	\$200	\$27	\$271	135.66%	\$71
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0
Total Revenues	\$700	\$76,231	\$16,620	\$92,778	121.71%	\$16,548
<u>Expenditures</u>						
Library Services	\$75,589	\$110,139	\$7,229	\$43,458	39.46%	(\$66,681)
Facilities & Equipment	\$34,382	\$61,754	\$2,289	\$29,939	48.48%	(\$31,815)
Other Operating Expenditures	\$52,224	\$65,832	\$5	\$11,771	17.88%	(\$54,061)
Total Expenditures	\$162,195	\$237,725	\$9,522	\$85,168	35.83%	(\$152,557)
Fund Balance - Beginning	\$161,695	\$161,695		\$161,695		
Net revenue (expenditures)	(\$161,495)	(\$161,495)		\$7,610		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$200	\$200		\$169,305		

Bloomfield Township Public Library
Asset Allocation Summary
JANUARY 2024

Fund	Type	Annual Yield	Date	Amount on Hand
General Fund				
	5th 3rd Checking (Ecommerce)	0.00%	1/31/2024	\$139,218.96
	Flagstar Public Funds Savings	4.22%	1/31/2024	\$211,454.52
	Flagstar Premier Public Entities Checking	1.05%	1/31/2024	\$258,236.24
	RBC Capital Cash/Money Market	1.40%	1/31/2024	\$3,081.79
	RBC Capital - Investments	4.48%	1/31/2024	\$13,614,386.92
	Total General Fund			<u>\$14,226,378.43</u>
	Please see General Fund budget for notes on how this amount is earmarked			
Gift Fund				
	Huntington Public Fund Business Interest Checking	0.29%	1/31/2024	\$110,294.07
	Huntington CD (Charnov gift) - matures 02/05/2024	0.03%	1/31/2024	\$50,000.00
	Fifth Third Bank Business Standard Checking	0.00%	1/31/2024	\$15,802.93
	Total Gift Fund			<u>\$176,097.00</u>

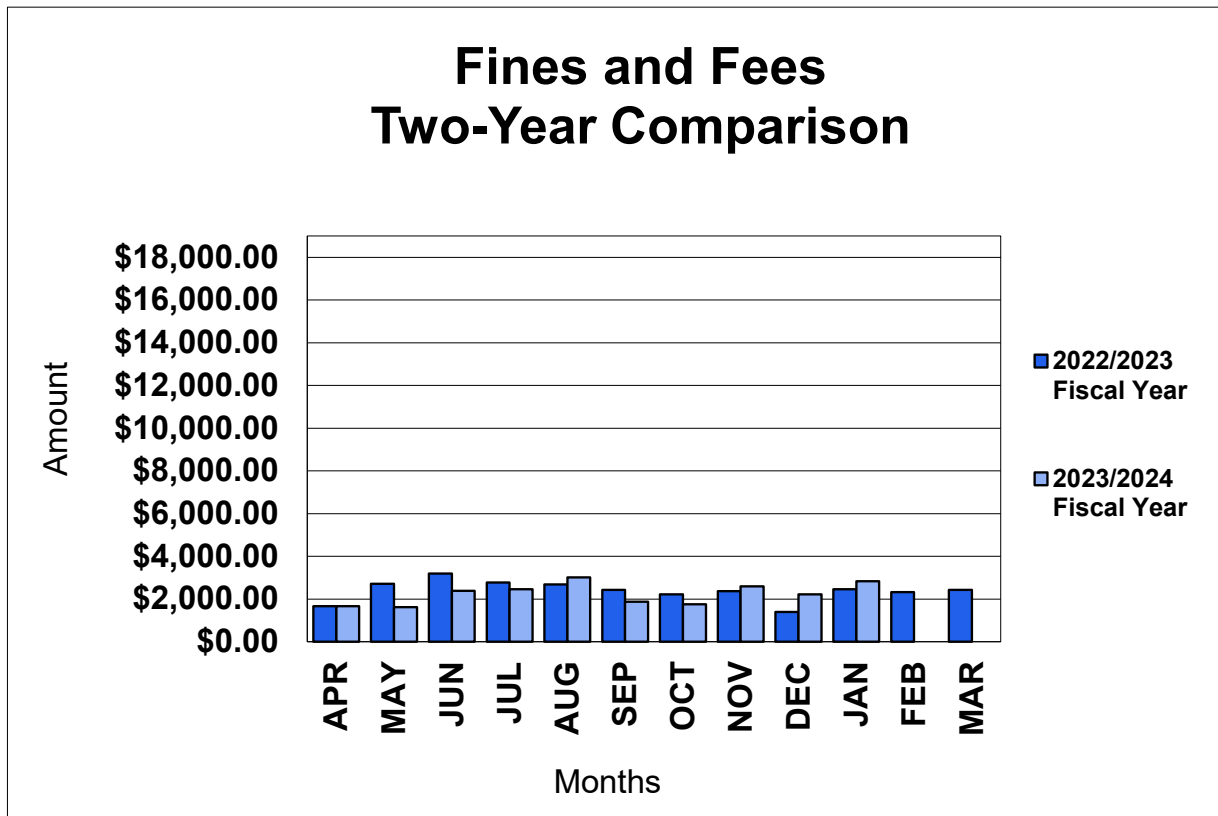
CFSEM

The following endowment funds are administered by the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (CFSEM). CFSEM maintains unilateral variance power and legal ownership of the endowment funds, and therefore, principal is not available to BTPL. Earnings are available for distribution to the Library for its operations at the discretion of CFSEM.

	<i>Updated 4/2023</i>	
Jeanette P. Myers Memorial Scholarship Fund	12/31/2022	\$15,283.00
Yvonne T. Atkinson Fund	12/31/2022	\$32,882.00
Lawrence Smith and Isabel Francis Smith Challenge Grant Fund	12/31/2022	\$35,695.35
BTPL Endowment Fund	12/31/2022	\$46,623.65
Fair Radom Garden Endowment Fund	12/31/2022	\$17,911.00
BTPL Director's Legacy Fund	12/31/2022	\$20,629.00
Total CFSEM holdings		<u>\$169,024.00</u>

FINES AND FEES - TWO-YEAR COMPARISON

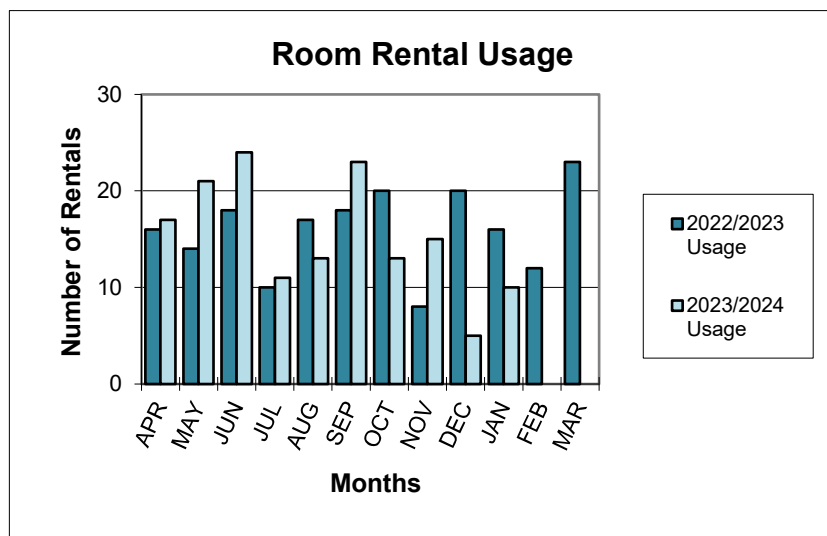
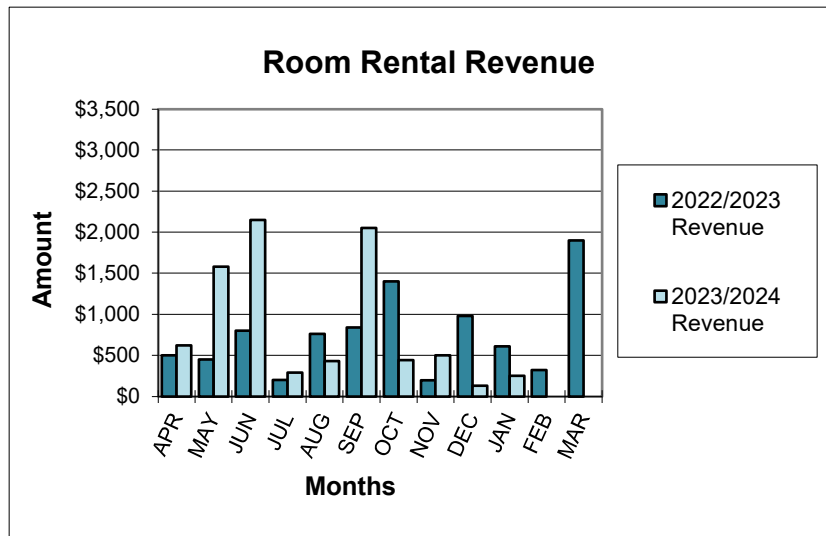
Month	2022/2023 Fiscal Year	2023/2024 Fiscal Year	Difference
APR	\$1,665.40	\$1,666.99	\$1.59
MAY	\$2,708.60	\$1,618.90	(\$1,089.70)
JUN	\$3,197.89	\$2,390.09	(\$807.80)
JUL	\$2,774.98	\$2,456.65	(\$318.33)
AUG	\$2,682.32	\$3,013.99	\$331.67
SEP	\$2,434.58	\$1,872.31	(\$562.27)
OCT	\$2,215.79	\$1,750.71	(\$465.08)
NOV	\$2,366.59	\$2,587.09	\$220.50
DEC	\$1,400.35	\$2,227.15	\$826.80
JAN	\$2,464.37	\$2,839.65	\$375.28
FEB	\$2,322.64		(\$2,322.64)
MAR	\$2,429.08		(\$2,429.08)
			YTD Difference
TOTAL	\$28,662.59	\$22,423.53	(\$6,239.06)



ROOM RENTAL - TWO-YEAR COMPARISON

7b

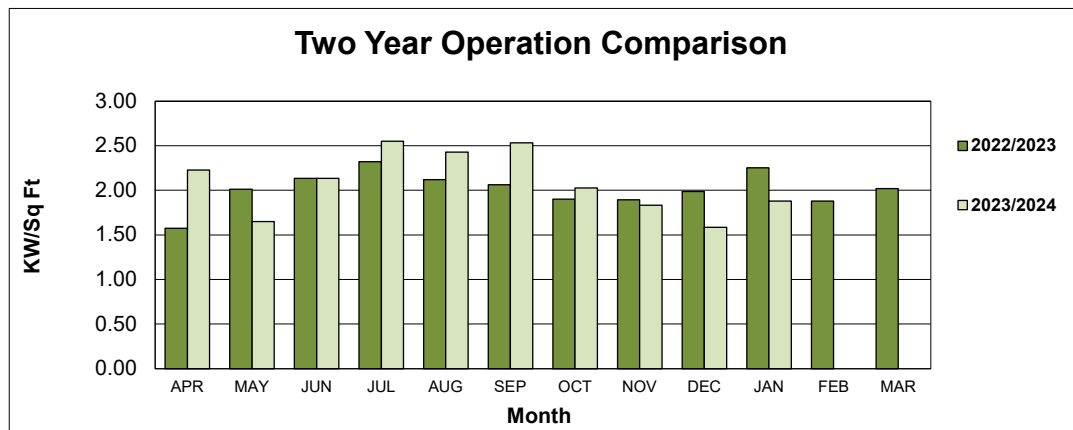
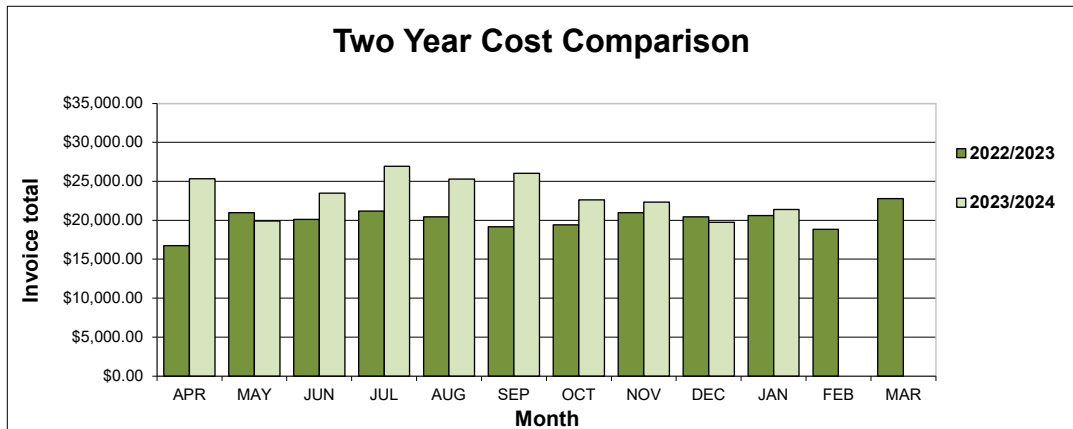
<u>Month</u>	2022/2023 <u>Revenue</u>	2023/2024 <u>Revenue</u>	<u>Difference</u>	2022/2023 <u>Usage</u>	2023/2024 <u>Usage</u>	<u>Month</u>
APR	\$500.00	\$620.00	\$120.00	16	17	APR
MAY	\$450.00	\$1,580.00	\$1,130.00	14	21	MAY
JUN	\$800.00	\$2,150.00	\$1,350.00	18	24	JUN
JUL	\$200.00	\$290.00	\$90.00	10	11	JUL
AUG	\$760.00	\$428.00	(\$332.00)	17	13	AUG
SEP	\$840.00	\$2,052.00	\$1,212.00	18	23	SEP
OCT	\$1,400.00	\$440.00	(\$960.00)	20	13	OCT
NOV	\$197.00	\$500.00	\$303.00	8	15	NOV
DEC	\$980.00	\$130.00	(\$850.00)	20	5	DEC
JAN	\$610.00	\$250.00	(\$360.00)	16	10	JAN
FEB	\$320.00		(\$320.00)	12		FEB
MAR	\$1,900.00		(\$1,900.00)	23		MAR
TOTAL	\$8,957.00	\$8,440.00	(\$517.00)	192	152	



Bloomfield Township Public Library Electricity Analysis

Building Area = 101,023 Sq ft.

TWO YEAR COST COMPARISON				CURRENT YEAR OPERATION					
Month	2022/2023	2023/2024	Difference	TOTAL	COST/KWH	KWH/HR (24 x no.days per month)	KWH/SQ FT 101,023	COST/HR (24 x no. days per month)	COST/SQ FT. 101,023
				KWH					
APR	\$16,757.01	\$25,322.27	\$8,565.26	225,134	\$0.11	312.69	2.23	\$35.17	\$0.25
MAY	\$20,983.27	\$19,897.76	(\$1,085.51)	166,495	\$0.12	223.78	1.65	\$26.74	\$0.20
JUN	\$20,099.70	\$23,496.49	\$3,396.79	215,453	\$0.11	299.24	2.13	\$32.63	\$0.23
JUL	\$21,165.46	\$26,914.27	\$5,748.81	257,670	\$0.10	346.33	2.55	\$36.18	\$0.27
AUG	\$20,421.44	\$25,285.64	\$4,864.20	245,364	\$0.10	329.79	2.43	\$33.99	\$0.25
SEP	\$19,149.28	\$26,013.82	\$6,864.54	256,011	\$0.10	355.57	2.53	\$36.13	\$0.26
OCT	\$19,397.88	\$22,634.92	\$3,237.04	204,729	\$0.11	275.17	2.03	\$30.42	\$0.22
NOV	\$20,955.05	\$22,324.34	\$1,369.29	185,290	\$0.12	257.35	1.83	\$31.01	\$0.22
DEC	\$20,428.62	\$19,726.20	(\$702.42)	160,034	\$0.12	215.10	1.58	\$26.51	\$0.20
JAN	\$20,598.15	\$21,386.01	\$787.86	189,840	\$0.11	255.16	1.88	\$28.74	\$0.21
FEB	\$18,822.06		(\$18,822.06)		#DIV/0!	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
MAR	\$22,798.37		(\$22,798.37)		#DIV/0!	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			YTD Difference						
TOTAL	\$241,576.29	\$233,001.72	(\$8,574.57)						

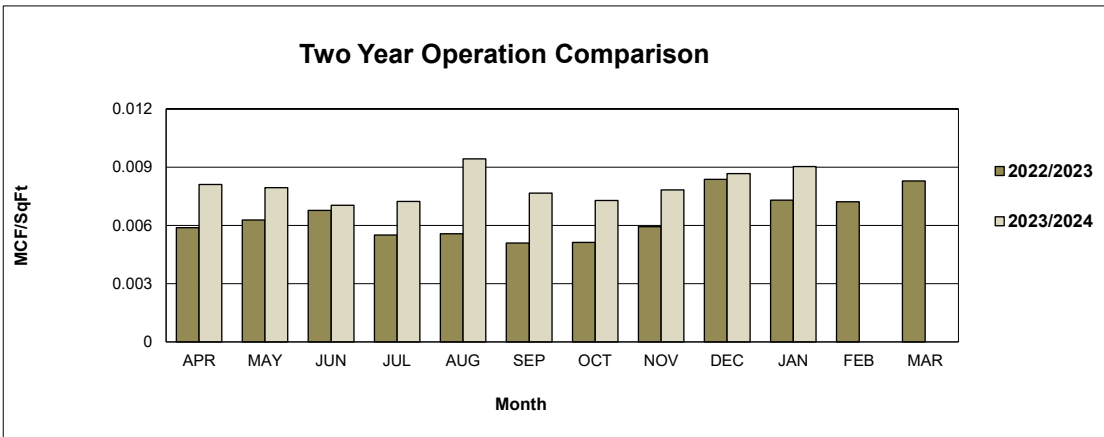
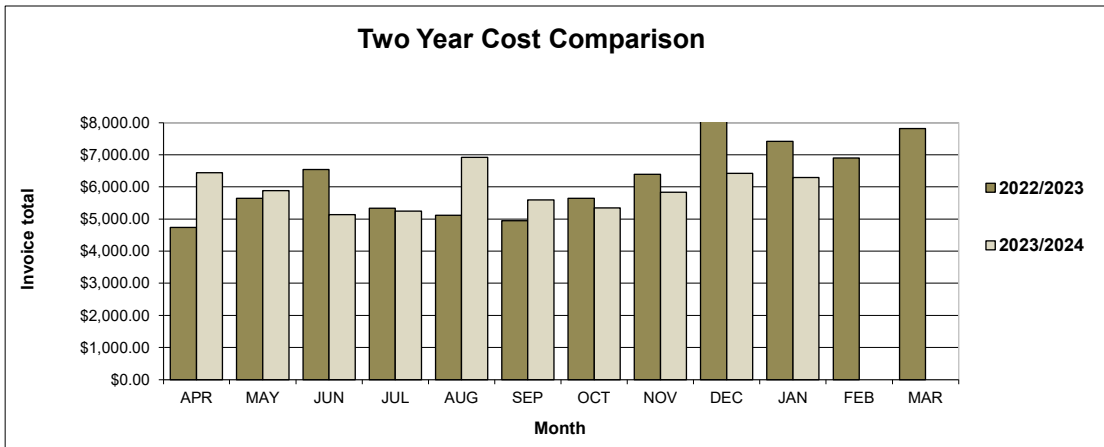


Bloomfield Township Public Library Natural Gas Analysis

Building Area = 101,023

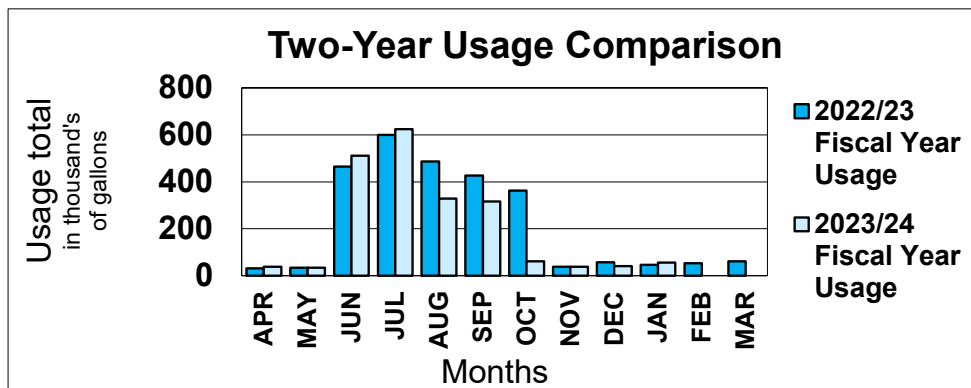
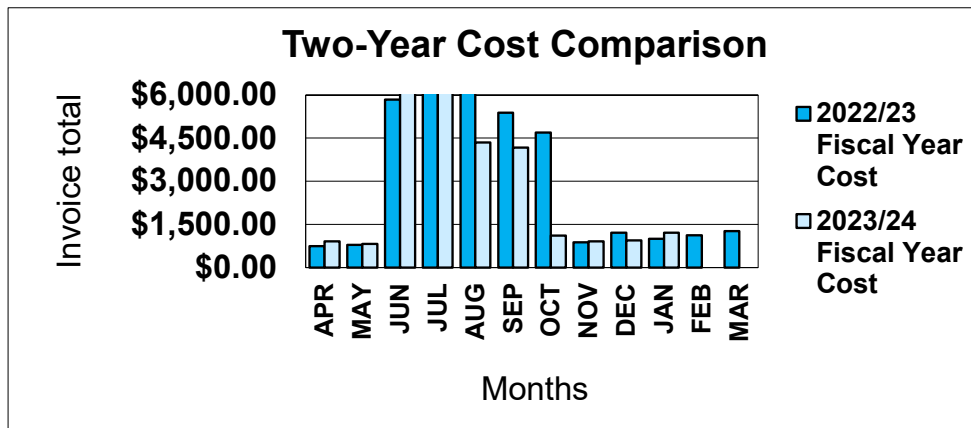
1 Cu. Ft. = 1000 BTU

TWO YEAR COST COMPARISON				OPERATION						
Month	2022/2023	2023/2024	Difference	MCF	COST/MCF	HOURS (24 x no.days per month)	MCF/HR	MCF/SqFt	\$/HR	\$/SqFt
	APR	\$4,734.95	\$6,437.40	\$1,702.45	819.4	\$7.86	720	1.14	0.008	8.94
MAY	\$5,648.12	\$5,880.24	\$232.12	802.0	\$7.33	744	1.08	0.008	7.90	0.057
JUN	\$6,540.98	\$5,137.69	(\$1,403.29)	711.2	\$7.22	720	0.99	0.007	7.14	0.050
JUL	\$5,339.99	\$5,249.15	(\$90.84)	731.0	\$7.18	744	0.98	0.007	7.06	0.051
AUG	\$5,112.10	\$6,918.84	\$1,806.74	952.2	\$7.27	744	1.28	0.009	9.30	0.067
SEP	\$4,944.69	\$5,594.26	\$649.57	773.8	\$7.23	720	1.07	0.008	7.77	0.055
OCT	\$5,643.43	\$5,344.46	(\$298.97)	735.3	\$7.27	744	0.99	0.007	7.18	0.052
NOV	\$6,389.93	\$5,835.59	(\$554.34)	791.3	\$7.37	720	1.10	0.008	8.10	0.057
DEC	\$8,675.57	\$6,426.13	(\$2,249.44)	875.7	\$7.34	744	1.18	0.009	8.64	0.063
JAN	\$7,423.04	\$6,294.19	(\$1,128.85)	912.6	\$6.90	744	1.23	0.009	8.46	0.061
FEB	\$6,900.13		(\$6,900.13)		#DIV/0!	696	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
MAR	\$7,814.38		(\$7,814.38)		#DIV/0!	744	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
YTD Difference										
TOTAL	\$75,167.31	\$59,117.95	(\$16,049.36)							



Bloomfield Township Public Library Water Analysis

Month	2022/23 Fiscal Year Cost	2023/24 Fiscal Year Cost	Difference	2022/23 Fiscal Year Usage	2023/24 Fiscal Year Usage	Difference
APR	\$738.86	\$905.74	\$166.88	31	39	8
MAY	\$791.54	\$815.29	\$23.75	34	34	0
JUN	\$5,842.47	\$6,613.60	\$771.13	465	511	46
JUL	\$7,436.77	\$7,947.25	\$510.48	600	624	24
AUG	\$6,106.80	\$4,352.62	(\$1,754.18)	487	329	(158)
SEP	\$5,385.90	\$4,174.75	(\$1,211.15)	427	316	(111)
OCT	\$4,694.57	\$1,108.90	(\$3,585.67)	363	61	(302)
NOV	\$879.34	\$905.74	\$26.40	39	39	0
DEC	\$1,212.98	\$941.62	(\$271.36)	58	41	(17)
JAN	\$1,002.26	\$1,213.27	\$211.01	46	56	10
FEB	\$1,125.18		(\$1,125.18)	53		(53)
MAR	\$1,265.66		(\$1,265.66)	61		(61)
			YTD Difference			YTD Difference
TOTAL	\$36,482.33	\$28,978.78	(\$7,503.55)	2,664	2,050	(614)



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONTHLY DIRECTOR'S REPORT****February 2024**

I am pleased that the **Friends of the Library will fund the 2024 Adaptive Umbrella workshop**. This workshop is offered every other year and educates library workers about serving community members with disabilities. Youth Services Department Head Jen Taggart created this workshop in 2008 along with the Accessibility Support Collection to better serve the disability community. She is an internationally recognized leader in this area of librarianship. I am so grateful to the Friends for their support of this important and unique offering.

There are several **staffing updates** to share.

- I'm pleased to welcome a new **full-time Youth Services librarian** to our staff. Selena Aguilera comes to us with wonderful experience in youth services including at the Taylor Community Library.
- An internal candidate has been hired to fill a full-time vacancy in IT (formerly Systems). Richard Kwang was a Circulation Page and then an IT Clerical Assistant and is now one of two **IT Specialists**. Richard has strong website development experience and will be responsible for making enhancements to our website, particularly around accessibility. This position has been vacant for nearly five years so there is a long task list for Richard!
- At the time I am writing this report, candidates to fill the **two Library Assistant positions** have not been selected. The strong response received has slowed down the process a bit. We are on track to have two people hired by mid-March.

Each month, one department leads interested staff on a tour and shares information about that department's operations. **Materials Services** (formerly Technical Services) was featured this month and I thought you might be interested to hear some of the information shared. Materials Services is a real behind-the-scenes department and therefore the most mysterious. The work they do is extremely detail-oriented and crucial to having an organized and usable collection. Through their work, the materials selected by the librarians can be found and checked out by patrons. This was submitted by Materials Services Department Head Lori Smith-Hoogasian.

Materials Services' primary role in the Library is to handle ordering, invoicing, cataloging, processing, repair, and withdrawal of all library materials in our collection. But we don't select materials –that is handled by the Adult & Teen Services and Youth Services Departments. We also place, monitor, and report accounting of all Amazon orders. We receive all incoming deliveries – sorting and routing everything to the right person or department.

We're responsible for much of the data in our ILS/catalog. We maintain over 360,000

bibliographic records (records that allow patrons to find items in the collection) plus thousands of order records which allow librarians to see fund balances for their collections. Materials are cataloged and physically processed with very specific standards, so they are indexed in our catalog and are ready to be discovered by patrons and checked out. Invoices from book, AV, and electronic services vendors are processed and approved by us before going to the Finance Coordinator for payment. Repair work can include sending books to the bindery or refinishing scratched discs. Withdrawals are removed from our catalog and recycled or boxed for Better World Books, a literacy-based reseller that makes free pick-ups and keeps them out of our dumpster.

The second round of early voting starts on Saturday, February 17 and runs through Sunday, February 25. The hours each day will be 8:30am-4:30pm except for Thursday when it's 12pm-8pm. Voting takes place in the Community Room. We anticipate a more traffic for this election than we saw in November 2023, but we don't anticipate any disruptions to library service. Election workers are responsible for ensuring enforcement of polling place rules and library staff are prepped to handle unusual situations.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Tera Moon
Library Director*

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
JANUARY 2024**

	2023		2024	
COLLECTION				
Book Collection:	231,610		231,179	
Media Collection:	53,787		49,925	
Total e-books:	21,191		19,015	
Overdrive:	17,383		15,834	
Total downloadable audiobooks:	9,095		9,318	
Materials Total:	315,683		309,437	
CIRCULATION				
Circulation Total:	53,373		55,573	
Bloomfield Township Circulation:	50,230		51,329	
Virtual Circulation Total:	12,820		16,441	
Circulation of Youth Materials:	19,949		17,582	
Circulation of Media:	7,581		7,172	
Circulation of Cranbrook passes:	186		180	
Self-Checkout machine use:	14,349	26.9%	13,621	24.5%
Library By Mail:	51	42 patrons	54	50 patrons
Mobile App	n/a		151	
Building & Equipment Usage				
Door Count:	17,261	*	17,687	**
Gate Count:	18,152		19,959	
Meeting rooms by public:	13		27	
Meeting rooms by staff:	61		80	
Virtual Use				
Home page hits:	33,946		42,312	
e-book access:	5,230		5,441	
Audiobook access: (Overdrive)	3,216		3,547	
Magazine download access:	1,074		3,551	
Hoopla access:	3,300		3,902	
BTPL Mobile New Devices	n/a		121	
BTPL Mobile Launches	n/a		2,212	
Library Computer Use				
Resident Use	399		430	
Guest Use	227		229	
* Library closed 1/1/23 for New Year's Day and 1/25/23 @ 1 pm due to inclement weather.				
** Library closed 1/1/24 for New Year's Day and 1/13/24 due to inclement weather.				

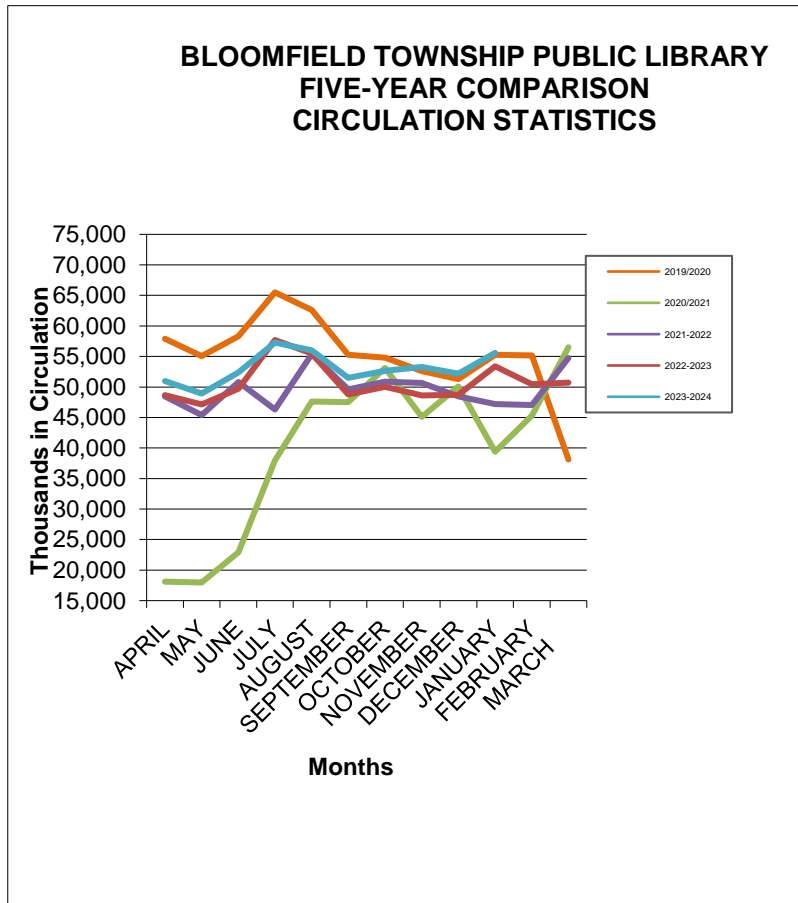
**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
JANUARY 2024**

	2023		2024	
OUTREACH & PROGRAMS				
<i>New Patrons and Accounts</i>				
Township:	223		181	
Cranbrook:	8		7	
Total new patrons:	297		250	
<i>Adult Program Attendance</i>				
Staff-led:	13 events	170 attended	12 events	89 attended
Speaker-led:	3 events	214 attended	1 event	47 attended
Book clubs:	5 events	38 attended	6 events	53 attended
Tours/visits on-site:	0 events	0 attended	0 events	0 attended
Tours/visits off-site:	4 events	121 attended	4 events	110 attended
Chamber Music Concert:	0 events	0 attended	0 events	0 attended
Bloomfield Historical Society:	0 events	0 attended	0 events	0 attended
<i>Systems Program Attendance</i>				
Staff-led:	3 events	19 attended	7 events	44 attended
<i>Teen Program Attendance</i>				
Staff-led:	3 events	14 attended	3 events	133 attended
<i>Youth Program Attendance</i>				
Staff-led:	35 events	1,006 attended	31 events	553 attended
Speaker-led:	0 events	0 attended	1 event	113 attended
Tours/visits on-site:	0 events	0 attended	0 events	0 attended
Tours/visits off-site:	5 events	124 attended	4 events	111 attended
TOTAL:	71 events	1,706 attended	69 events	1253 attended
<i>Volunteers (total for the month)</i>				
Shop volunteers	7 people	60 hours	5 people	42.25 hours
Court appointed volunteers	0 people	0 hours	1 person	3 hours
Student volunteers	0 people	0 hours	3 people	5 hours
Department volunteers	1 person	16 hours	1 person	14.75 hours
<i>Patron Remarks</i>				
Patron comments:	7		10	
Ask BTPL:	2		8	
DISPLAYS				
Lobby	<i>Soft Art & Sensory Scapes with nat s.p.</i>			
Local History	<i>Winter Reading Challenge</i>			

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
FIVE YEAR CIRCULATION**

2/13/2024

	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
APRIL	57,900	18,087	48,463	48,665	50,983
MAY	55,056	17,974	45,393	47,140	48,921
JUNE	58,301	22,933	50,843	49,706	52,369
JULY	65,499	37,962	46,304	57,694	57,272
AUGUST	62,633	47,629	55,372	55,485	55,983
SEPTEMBER	55,270	47,507	49,604	48,792	51,492
OCTOBER	54,813	53,114	50,855	50,032	52,652
NOVEMBER	52,623	45,117	50,656	48,595	53,264
DECEMBER	51,267	50,080	48,439	48,737	52,182
JANUARY	55,277	39,378	47,195	53,373	55,573
FEBRUARY	55,172	45,329	47,023	50,469	
MARCH	38,121	56,504	54,732	50,705	
TOTAL	661,932	481,614	594,879	609,393	530,691



Decrease due to Library being closed March 14-31, 2020 (Covid-19 Pandemic)
 Decrease due to Library being closed April 1-30, 2020 (Covid 19 Pandemic)
 Decrease due to Library being closed May 1-31, 2020 (Covid 19 Pandemic)

**MINUTES OF THE BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY AMBASSADORS GROUP**

Bloomfield Township Public Library
Oakland County, Michigan
Tuesday, January 23, 2024
Meeting Room 1
7:00 p.m.

Trustees Present: Keith Carduner (via zoom), Dani Gillman (via zoom), Joan Luksik (via zoom), Judy Lindstrom (via zoom), Joy Murray (via zoom)

Trustees Absent: Shane Spradlin

Administration: Director Tera Moon; Administrative Assistant Linden Godlove

Guests: Bloomfield Township Residents: Suzanne Anderson (via zoom), Russ Conner (via zoom), Madeline Harris, Lawrence Irwin, Jane Kahan (via zoom), Judy Kudla (via zoom), Jim Labes (via zoom), Andy Saxe (via zoom), and Connie Silver

Trustee Welcome by President Dani Gillman

President Dani Gillman welcomed everyone to the first Ambassadors meeting of 2024. The meeting will be recorded. There will be updates about the strategic plan, updates regarding intellectual freedom, and more.

Updates from Library Director Tera Moon

Director Moon thanked everyone for being a part of the meeting. The time has come for the Ambassadors to spread the word about the great things the Library is doing. She reflected on the first meeting taking place in March of 2021, nearly three years ago. There are many who have been involved since the beginning and many new faces.

Library Millage Renewal

In October, the ballot language was approved. It has since been submitted to the county. It is on the ballot and the word is out, including some articles in many publications, including *The Eagle*. BCTV recorded an informational session and distributed it in their newsletter. Two informational sessions have been held at the Library and two more sessions are planned for February 15. Absentee ballots have been mailed out. There is not a negative campaign that the Library is aware of. Director Moon has only received one phone call so far, which was a person seeking clarification.

Library as Early Voting Site

The Library was an early voting site for the November 7 election, with nine days of early voting. Only one of the municipalities had something on their ballot. 133 people voted at the Library over those nine days. It was a great training ground for the election workers. The election workers now print ballots on demand, and this was a good test of their new system. For the Library, this was also a good experience and a good learning opportunity. All went well. For the February election, early voting takes place February 17-25. Early voting will be open 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., except Thursday, which is 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. There is no voting on the Monday before election day. Everyone votes in person at their own precinct for election day on Tuesday. This will be the presidential primary, so it is anticipated that there will be more people coming for early voting.

Trustee Joan Luksik inquired about the restrictions for campaigners. They are to be at least 100 feet from the main entrance. For the fall election, this area was marked with tape. It's just beyond Linda's Garden, the round garden in front of the portico.

Intellectual Freedom Updates

Director Moon said for this Library, there is not much to update. She reported receiving a minor complaint about a book from a concerned parent, but it differs from the book challenges making the news. It is in progress, so she will not discuss the details. The process is working. There had been a concerned comment from a patron a few weeks ago about the author's note of a book on display. The person had a great conversation with one of the Trustees about it. The fervor has abated somewhat across the state and the country. There are still challenges and it is still an issue. State Librarian Randy Riley reported the Michigan Board of Education is dealing with this issue too.

This is the year of the Library's 60th anniversary. Nothing is planned at this time, but there will be a meeting with a trustee committee in the future.

Strategic Plan

The Library adopted a new strategic plan a little over a year ago. In early 2023, we determined how to move forward with the plan. The Library management team selected three main goals to work on in the coming year:

- Enhance Our Core - Reimagine use of library spaces for increased inclusion and flexibility.
- Build Organizational Capacity - Update recruiting, hiring, on-boarding, and retention practices using a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens.
- Build Organizational Capacity - Cultivate a collaborative culture by focusing on how we work together.

Staff committees began meeting monthly in June and took actions toward these goals, as well as recommendations for longer-term, more complex actions. Alongside the committee work, other projects have also contributed to achieving various strategic goals.

Accomplishments so far include:

Community engagement:

- Created Early Childhood Specialist position to provide additional outreach services to this age group.
- Participated in multiple outreach events, including the Bloomfield Township Open House.
- Connected with households without a library card by implementing a direct mail campaign to encourage library card registration.
- Expanded school media specialist liaison program in 2023-2024 school year.

Innovative technology:

- Launched BTPL Mobile App.
- Working on Vega, an updated public online catalog from Innovative Interfaces, Inc. Set to launch in March 2024.

Also:

- Implemented new study room reservation system. (Inclusive spaces)
- Changed two Intern positions to Library Assistant positions based on response to previous Intern postings. The Library Assistant position is open to more potential candidates due to changes in educational requirements. (HR practices)
- Implemented monthly departmental tours. (Collaborative culture)

In addition, the Library contracted with interior designer Jenna Walker to develop a pre-design and research report for library renovations. Based on the research, Jenna and her team created a concept narrative and design concepts. She shared the schematic design, including the floor plan, prioritization of projects, phasing, and timeline.

Questions and Open Discussion

Andy Saxe asked about a welcome package to new community members. The population has grown in Bloomfield Township. That option is being explored. Judy Lindstrom suggested contacting realtors. Staff completed a pilot postcard campaign and have acquired funding from the Friends to expand it.

Russ Conner said he will pass on marketing materials for realtors in his subdivision. Connie Silver distributes them in her neighborhood. She suggested departments promote one thing that people get excited about—simple things people don't realize the Library has.

Director Moon said she is in a holding pattern until the millage vote. This will affect the budget and whether it will be a year of accomplishing new goals or a year of difficult decisions.

At the next meeting, the millage will have been decided. Conversations about space needs will be considered.

Andy Saxe shared that the “Stop the Bleed” program is being made available to library staff. He had proposed the training. This is part of a nationwide effort to train people to respond in a traumatic event before emergency services. Mr. Saxe has worked with Assistant Director Katherine Bryant to offer this to staff. He hopes it might be offered to the public soon.

There was more discussion of the millage renewal proposal.

Director Moon expressed her gratitude for everyone’s participation.

Closing with President Dani Gillman

President Gillman thanked everyone for being present and reminded them that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 30.

Future meeting dates and times are in April, July, October, and January 2025. The next Library Ambassadors meeting will be Tuesday, April 30, 7:00pm – 8:30pm.

**MINUTES OF THE BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees Personnel Committee was held in the Library on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Trustees Present: Trustees Dani Gillman, Judy Lindstrom, and Joan Luksik

Administration: Library Director Tera Moon and Assistant Director Katherine Bryant

Personnel Budget

Tera reviewed the compensation survey and the library budget. Administration recommends a 5% salary increase, which is sustainable within the library budget and keeps the Library's salary ranges comparable with other area libraries. The Committee supported this recommendation. This will be included in the budget presented at the budget review on Thursday, March 7 at 9:00 a.m. The final FY 2024-2025 budget will be presented for approval at the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees on March 19, 2024. If approved, benefit letters will be sent to each employee. The new wages would go into effect on April 1, 2024.

No future meeting date is scheduled at this time.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Trustees
FROM: Tera Moon, Library Director
DATE: February 9, 2024
SUBJECT: Bylaws Review

During the annual policy review, Judy Lindstrom suggested reviewing the bylaws of the Library Board of Trustees as a group. Her vision is to spend some time at each board meeting discussing the bylaws. The primary goal of this discussion is to ensure a common understanding of the bylaws. It's an opportunity to understand how and why the Board operates the way it does. In the event that a procedure needs to be invoked, such as filling a midterm vacancy, the procedures will be fresher in our minds.

While the primary goal is understanding, we may, through conversation, decide some changes need to be made. If suggested changes come out of our conversations, I will keep track of them, and the policy committee can discuss the suggestions and put forth recommendations for changes during the annual policy review in late summer/early fall.

This month we will review and discuss Article IV, Sections 1-2. This Article establishes standing committees and how trustees are selected for the committees.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
POLICY MANUAL**

SECTION II: ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC OPERATION

BYLAWS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ARTICLE I

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1 - The Library Board of Bloomfield Township Public Library shall consist of six trustees elected as provided by the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 2 - The responsibilities of the Library Board of Trustees as defined in Michigan Compiled Laws Public Act 397.205 include “make and adopt such bylaws, rules, and regulations for their own guidance and for the government of the library and reading room, as may be expedient; ...the exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected to the credit of the library fund, and of the construction of any library building, and of the supervision, care, and custody of the grounds, rooms, or buildings constructed, leased, or set apart for that purpose; ...to purchase or lease grounds, to occupy, lease, or erect an appropriate building or buildings for the use of said library...to appoint a suitable librarian and necessary assistants, and fix their compensation; and ...to remove such appointees.”

Section 3 - In the event of a vacancy, the Board shall appoint a qualified person to hold the vacant office until the next general November election. The appointed trustee shall be selected by a process as outlined in the Library Board of Trustees-approved “Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees Vacancy Procedure.”

ARTICLE II

OFFICERS

Section 1 - The Officers of the Board of Trustees shall be a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary.

Section 2 - The President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Board shall be elected annually at the annual meeting of the Library Board of Trustees. Each officer shall hold office until a successor shall have been duly elected or until death, resignation, conviction of a felony, removal from office by the Governor under the State Constitution or ceases to be a qualified elector of Bloomfield Township. Vacancies in an office shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term, at the next regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees after such vacancy occurs.

Section 3 - The President of the Board shall preside at all meetings, appoint all committees, authorize calls for any special meetings, and generally perform the duties of a presiding officer. The President shall have the authority to sign on behalf

Continued next page ...

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
POLICY MANUAL**

SECTION II: ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC OPERATION

of the Board of Trustees all instruments, contracts, or documents necessary or proper to be executed as approved by a majority of the Library Board of Trustees. The President may delegate such authority to the Library Director as approved by the Library Board of Trustees.

Section 4 – The Vice President of the Board, in the absence of the President, shall preside at all meetings, appoint all committees, authorize calls for any special meetings, and generally perform the duties of a presiding officer. The Vice President shall have the authority to sign on behalf of the Library Board of Trustees all instruments, contracts, or documents necessary or proper to be executed as approved by a majority of the Library Board of Trustees.

Section 5 - The Secretary of the Board shall approve an accurate and permanent account of the proceedings of the Board meetings, and generally perform the duties associated with that office. In the President's and Vice President's absences, the Secretary shall preside at Board meetings, and assume the authority to act on behalf of the President and Vice President.

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS

Section 1 - The regular monthly meetings of the Library Board shall be held at the Library on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m., or the fourth Tuesday of April at 7 p.m., or at a time stated from the proceedings of the previous meeting unless otherwise ordered by the Library Board of Trustees.

Section 2 - The first regular meeting of the Library Board in November shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers and the appointment to committees, in addition to any other business that may arise. Each Trustee is expected to serve as an officer of the Library Board at least once during their four year term.

Section 3 - Special meetings may be called by the President or upon written request of three members of the Board, for the transaction of business stated in the call for the meeting.

Section 4 - Notices of all regular meetings and any special meetings shall be distributed from the Library to all members at least three (3) days before the meeting; provided, however, that notice of any meeting may be waived by any Trustee.

Section 5 - Public notice of all meetings of the Library Board of Trustees shall be posted in advance of such meetings, pursuant to the Michigan "Open Meetings Act," Michigan Compiled Laws Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
POLICY MANUAL**

SECTION II: ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC OPERATION

Section 6 - A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of not less than four (4) members of the Board. The affirmative vote of a majority of the members present of the Library Board of Trustees present is required for the approval of any action or decision of the Board, unless the vote of a larger number is required by law. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of the Board, the members of the Board present may adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the meeting, until a quorum shall be present.

Section 7 – As permitted by law, a member of the Library Board of Trustees may participate in a meeting using communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this section constitutes a presence in person at the meeting.

Section 8 - Regular attendance at board meetings is essential. The Library Board President and the Library Director should be notified in advance if attendance is not possible. A trustee who misses meetings frequently may not completely understand the issues at hand and valuable meeting time can be lost bringing that trustee back up to speed. An uninformed trustee cannot make the best possible decision when it comes time to vote. A successful library board needs every trustee at every meeting. A trustee who has difficulty in regularly attending meetings may wish to seek other opportunities to help the library rather than serving on the library board.

ARTICLE IV

COMMITTEES

Section 1 – The President of the Board shall appoint members to standing committees such as Finance, Personnel, and Policy, among others. These committees shall make periodic reports to the Board.

Section 2 – The President of the Board shall appoint members to special, select, or *ad hoc* committees created for specific purposes, such as the study and investigation of special issues, nominating committee and other *ad hoc* committees as the President shall deem appropriate. These committees shall make periodic reports to the Board as requested.

Two Trustees shall constitute the nominating committee and shall be appointed in advance of the annual meeting in November by the President of the Board. The role of the nominating committee is to find the most appropriate candidate for each office and present a slate of candidates at the annual meeting. Officers are elected by majority voice vote and begin their term after the meeting at which they are elected. The President should not sit on the Nominating Committee. Committee members can also be a nominee.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
POLICY MANUAL**

SECTION II: ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC OPERATION

ARTICLE V

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Section 1 - Pursuant to Michigan Compiled Laws Public Act 397.205, the Board of Trustees “shall have power to appoint a suitable librarian” to serve as Library Director and “shall also have power to remove such appointees.” The appointed Library Director shall be selected by a process as outlined in the Library Board of Trustees-approved “Bloomfield Township Public Library Director Vacancy Procedure.”

Section 2 - The Library Director shall be considered the executive officer of the Library and shall have sole charge of the administration of the Library under the direction and review of the Library Board of Trustees.

Section 3 -The Library Director shall be responsible for the Library’s services and resources offered to the community; for the operation of the Library under the financial conditions set forth in the annual budget; for the employment and direction of the staff; and for the care of the buildings and equipment. The Library Director shall attend all meetings of the Library Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VI

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Board in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Board may adopt.

ARTICLE VII

AMENDMENTS

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by the affirmative vote of four (4) members of the Board of Trustees, provided that the proposed amendment was stated in the call for the meeting.

By-Laws adopted: 9/6/63
Amended: 2/10/87
Amended: 1/18/98
Amended: 1/19/99
Amended: 1/20/04
Amended: 1/16/07
Amended: 9/20/11
Amended: 9/16/14
Amended: 11/21/17
Amended: 10/16/18
Amended: 9/22/2022
Amended: 10/17/2023



Board of Trustees Standing Committee Appointments

January 2023 – January 2024

Art Committee	Joan Luksik Judy Lindstrom
Bloomfield Township Liaison	Dani Gillman Judy Lindstrom
Building and Grounds Committee	All
Cranbrook, DPL, Troy Committee	Keith Carduner Joy Murray
Development Committee	All
Finance Committee	Keith Carduner Shane Spradlin
Friends of the Library Liaison Committee	Joy Murray
Investment Committee	All
Jeanette P. Myers Scholarship Selection Committee	Joan Luksik Joy Murray
Personnel/Director Evaluation Committee	Joan Luksik Judy Lindstrom
Policy Committee	Judy Lindstrom Shane Spradlin

Revised December 2022

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Trustees

FROM: Tera Moon, Library Director

DATE: February 9, 2024

SUBJECT: Review of Budget Reports

In response to recent questions about the Library's financial reports and process, I would like to spend some time reviewing these. At the board meeting, I will review the financial reports that are provided in the monthly board packet and how these help you as Trustees evaluate the Library's financial position. I will provide an outline of the process of developing the budget, the goals of the budget as a document, and your role in the budget. Approving the budget is one of your primary responsibilities as a Trustee on a governing board, so it's important to ensure your understanding of it. This will pave the way for the consideration of the 2024-2025 budget which will happen in March. I hope this will be a helpful conversation.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Trustees

FROM: Tera Moon

DATE: February 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Updates to Solicitation Guidelines

Now that the Library is a polling place for early voting, it is necessary to update the Solicitation Guidelines and the Rules of Conduct to include rules for campaigning.

At their most essential level, the purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that campaigning does not interfere with patrons' use of the Library. Goals include ensuring that patrons have easy ingress and egress and that library grounds are not damaged by signs or other campaigning activity.

In Michigan, within 100 feet of a polling place, it is illegal to attempt to persuade someone to vote for or against a specific candidate, party, or ballot question. This is the rule that Bloomfield Township Clerk Martin Brook instructed us to use in November 2023 during the first period of early voting and it is state law. Library staff marked 100 feet from the entrance of the Library and staff were informed of the 100-foot rule. No enforcement was needed during that election period. Future elections are likely to be much busier with more campaign activity, so it is important to establish these guidelines now.

Public libraries are limited public forums which means we are a place where people can collect signatures for a petition and perform other activities protected by the First Amendment. Currently the Library's Solicitation Guidelines govern how and where people can collect signatures. The Library has been a popular place for this activity and problems have been rare. In the past, we have used a rule of asking petitioners to stand 85 feet away from the entrance. I am proposing changing that rule to 100 feet for consistency.

Additionally, the current guidelines prohibit "sales, solicitations, and solicitations of monetary donations of any kind by outside organizations." We are strict about upholding this rule. The Library receives many requests to be a site for drives (think: coats, books, diapers, etc.) by outside groups, which we routinely deny, and the solicitation guidelines provide backing for that.

Below is a revision of the guidelines with changes highlighted. The changes are mostly additions to the text.

Petitioning, Campaigning, and Soliciting at the Library

Gathering petition signatures and **campaigning for candidates and ballot issues** are a form of free speech, protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and is allowed on library grounds according to the following guidelines:

- The permitted area for petitioning and **campaigning is at least 100 feet from the building entrance**, or the south side of the circle "Linda's Garden" area. Entrance and exit to and from the library building needs to remain unobstructed. For this reason, tables, chairs, and posted signs are not permitted.
- **Lawn signs for candidates and ballot issues may be placed at least 100 feet from the building entrance during early voting, but they may not be placed in gardens or otherwise damage library grounds. Signs will be removed and discarded at the end of the next business day after early voting.**
- **The 100-foot boundary will be marked by election or library staff during early voting periods.**
- The Library retains the right to request that a petitioner **or campaigner** relocate if it is deemed that access to the library building is impeded.
- **Petitioners, campaigners, and library patrons** are expected to abide by the Library's Rules of Conduct. Failure to comply may result in a request to leave the Library premises.
- Use of the library property by petitioners **and campaigners** does not indicate the Library's opposition to or endorsement of the candidate or issue that is the subject of the petition **or campaign**. The Library will not assist petitioners in the solicitation of signatures.
- Sales, solicitations, and solicitations of monetary donations of any kind by outside organizations are not allowed.

In addition to updating these guidelines, I recommend updating the Library's Rules of Conduct to address campaigning. There is already a bullet point about soliciting. The update would add petitioning and campaigning to that bullet point. The revised Rules of Conduct are below.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC LIBRARY
RULES OF CONDUCT
Effective ~~September 21, 2016~~ February 21, 2024**

The specific rules for conduct in the Library and on its grounds are:

- *Interference with others using the Library or with employees performing their duties at the Library is not permitted.*
- *All materials removed from the Library must be checked out on a valid library card.*
- *No damage, defacement, littering, or removal of any part of the Library's building, furniture, equipment, materials, or grounds is permitted.*

- *Appropriate attire is required for entry and service.*
- *Only covered beverages are permitted in the Library. Food is only permitted in the café.*
- *The Library is smoke-free; smoking—including use of tobacco, tobacco-like products and electronic cigarettes—is not permitted within 50 feet of the building.*
- *No petitioning, campaigning, or soliciting within the library building or within 85 100 feet of the Library's entrance.*
- *Children under age 12 must be supervised by an adult in the Library or on its grounds.*
- *Parents and guardians are responsible for minors (under age 18) in the Library and on its grounds at all times.*
- *The Library is a public building. Visitors should be aware of their surroundings at all times and responsible for their own belongings.*

The Bloomfield Township Public Library's Library Conduct Policy states, "In order to provide a positive experience at the Library for all persons, the Library's Board of Trustees shall authorize the Library Director to establish and communicate rules for conduct in the Library and on its grounds. The Library staff shall be authorized by the Library Director to implement these rules for conduct.

"Any patron not abiding by these rules of the Library may be required to leave the Library premises and may forfeit their Library privileges. Actions that violate local, state, or federal law may be prosecuted. Any patron may appeal to the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees in respect to any action taken under this Library Conduct Policy."

These rules are enforced by the Library's staff and the Bloomfield Township Police Department.

Patron identification, including name, address, and telephone number, may be requested. There are many statutes that govern your use of the Library—the community's collection, the building and grounds, and its services—such as copyright, homeland security and more. Actions that violate local, state, or federal law will be prosecuted.

Again, the goal of these guidelines is to protect patrons' free and convenient use of the Library and library grounds while not infringing on other patrons' First Amendment rights. Library staff are trained to enforce these guidelines. During the early voting period, we rely on the election workers for enforcement. Library staff are committed to working with the election workers – and call on the Bloomfield Township Police Department if needed – to make sure everyone has a pleasant experience at the Library and their voices are heard.

I presented these changes to the Policy Committee (Judy Lindstom and Shane Spradlin) via email. They both support the changes. If you approve, there is an action.

ACTION: I move to approve the revisions to the Library's Solicitation Guidelines and Rules of Conduct.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

MOTION TO APPROVE ANY ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

I move to approve the items previously removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Library Board of Trustees

FROM: Katherine Bryant, Assistant Library Director

DATE: February 15, 2024

SUBJECT: Strategic Plan

All three strategic plan committees held meetings in January. Their meeting summaries are below.

HR Practices Committee

The group discussed revisions to our two memos, Compensation and Classification and Hiring Process Recommendations, with the goal of reframing them into a final deliverable. Administrative Assistant Linden Godlove and Finance Coordinator Monica agreed to make final revisions to the Comp & Class memo, along with their research spreadsheet, and Adult and Teen Services Librarian Drew Heuser and Youth Services Librarian Killian Weston also agreed to make last revisions to the Hiring Process Recommendations memo, both with the goal of presentation at the February 13 meeting. The group also discussed what constitutes reasonable accommodation by an employer for an employee.

Collaborative Culture Committee

Tera discussed the TLN Perceptions Survey, a TLN-run survey on general work culture that would give the Library good feedback (should be conducted over the next 6-12 months). However, the Committee felt we could create more specific questions for our staff in our own Employee Satisfaction Survey. This would go out annually, from the Committee initially, and would be anonymous. Next, IT Department Head Paul Zink talked about how to remind employees that their work matters. This ties in with the suggestion to have a form of “staff praise” that does not involve formal recognition. The group felt that Library staff already know their work matters (which is why they work in the public sector), but it would be nice to produce a form of reminders to support staff morale. Several ideas were discussed. Finally, the Committee reviewed a list of questions for a possible Employee Satisfaction Survey. We will continue to work on this at the next meeting.

Inclusive Spaces Committee

Adult and Teen Services Assistant Department Head Brooke Hoskins shared an update from Director Tera Moon that depending on the millage renewal proposal outcome, a meeting with Interior Designer Jenna Walker is anticipated in April 2024 to advance their renovation proposal. The committee also engaged in a discussion about various observations related to library spaces and patron usage over the past few months. This included items such as noise complaints, furniture issues, the new study room booking process, exam week challenges, and meeting room technologies. In the coming month, committee members will carefully review all our observations, aiming to identify and prioritize issues that should be addressed sooner rather than later. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 19 at 2:30 p.m.

Completed Activities:

ENHANCE OUR CORE...to create responsive collections, functional and comfortable spaces, and seamless digital experience.

Goal 1: Anticipate collections to develop in response to community needs that inform, entertain, and expand world view.

- While not a new collection, Teen items are easier to find now that a location code for Teen has been created. All teen items that were coded as Adult Services have been globally updated to Teen. The Teen location is available as a location facet for limiting searches but thus far, not as a collection facet.

Goal 2: Reimagine use of library spaces for increased inclusion and flexibility.

- Engaged with Jenna Walker to create and present a Pre-design and Research Report for Library Renovation.
- Implemented new study room reservation system.

Goal 3: Proactively provide access to innovative technology resources, support, and education to support robust digital experiences at all stages of life.

- Launched BTPL Mobile App.
- Working on Vega, an updated public online catalog from Innovative Interfaces, Inc. Set to launch in March 2024.

CONNECT THE COMMUNITY...with each other, with opportunities to be creative, and with new experiences.

Goal 1: Bring people together around diverse interests and thought-provoking topics.

Goal 2: Expand opportunities for people and groups to create and explore.

- Hosted Dino-ember scavenger hunt in Youth Services.

Goal 3: Deepen engagement with all community members by proactively listening to and learning about needs.

- Created Early Childhood Specialist position to provide additional outreach services to this age group.
- Expanded school media specialist liaison program in 2023-2024 school year.
- Participated in multiple outreach events, including the Bloomfield Township Open House.
- Connected with households without a library card by implementing a direct mail campaign to encourage library card registration.

BUILD ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY...for strong operations, satisfying employment, and a collaborative culture.

Goal 1: Practice learning organization principles.

Goal 2: Update recruiting, hiring, on-boarding, and retention practices using a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens.

- Changed two Intern positions to Library Assistant positions based on response to previous Intern postings. The Library Assistant position is open to more potential candidates due to changes in educational requirements.

Goal 3: Cultivate a collaborative culture by focusing on how we work together.

- Implemented monthly departmental tours.

MARKETING REPORT

JANUARY 2024

INSTAGRAM



FOLLOWERS:
1649 (↑27 from Dec.)

TOTAL REACH:
998
(↑28% from Dec.)



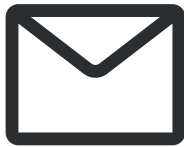
FACEBOOK



FOLLOWERS:
2997 (↑34 from Dec.)

TOTAL REACH:
11,200
(↑84% from Dec.)

NEWSLETTERS



- **Movies and More** (new DVDs, Winter Reading Challenge) - 148 messages
- **Books and More** (new books, Winter Reading Challenge) - 1446 messages
- **Discover** (Photo Contest, millage renewal proposal, email newsletters, various programs for all ages) - 16,425 messages
- **Snow Day Closure** - 23,053 messages
- **Millage Renewal Info** - 16,266 messages
- **Digital News** (new titles from Libby and hoopla) - 2165 messages

X



FOLLOWERS:
292 (↑13 from Dec.)

IMPRESSIONS:
299 with 10 tweets



PRESS RELEASES



- Photo Contest
- Millage Renewal Proposal
- Home Organizing program
- History Lecture: 1st Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment
- February Book Sale
- Chamber Music Concert

Building Tomorrow's Transit Today: SMART's Community-Centric Approach to Revamping Public Transportation

Ebony JJ Curry, Senior Reporter
January 12, 2024



The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) has launched the SMARTer Mobility Program. This initiative represents a significant stride towards enhancing transit services in southeast Michigan, focusing on accessibility and inclusivity. SMART is now calling upon the community to play a pivotal role in this transformative process.

Throughout January and February 2024, SMART is orchestrating a series of interactive public meetings. These sessions, both in-person and virtual, are designed to gather valuable insights from residents of Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties. The objective is to understand the commuting needs, preferences, and priorities of riders – information that will be instrumental in guiding the future direction of SMART’s service enhancements.

In-Person Meetings:

- 23 at 6:00 pm – Richmond Community Center
- 24 at 6:30 pm – Novi Public Library
- 25 at 6:00 pm – Henry Ford College
- 5 at 6:00 pm – SMART Royal Oak Transit Center
- 6 at 6:00 pm – Redeemer United Methodist Church
- 7 at 6:00 pm – Macomb Community College
- 8 at 6:30 pm – Bloomfield Township Public Library

Online Zoom Meetings:

- 16 at 6:00 pm
- 17 at 1:30 pm
- 29 at 11:30 am
- 1 at 6:00 pm

SMART extends an open invitation to all individuals, irrespective of their county of residence, to participate in any meeting that suits their availability.

The in-person meetings are scheduled at various community hubs. Complementing these are the online Zoom meetings, making the consultation process more accessible to a wider audience. SMART has emphasized that individuals from any county are welcome to participate in these meetings, irrespective of their residence, highlighting the inclusivity of the initiative.

Central to the SMARTer Mobility Study is a comprehensive examination of all mobility modes, infrastructure, and routes within the SMART network. The study addresses the critical need for a connected and efficient public transportation system across the tri-county area. It is a decisive step towards realizing SMART’s vision of a transit system that is not only efficient and accessible but also responsive to the needs of the southeast Michigan community.

By reducing wait times and extending services to previously underserved areas, SMART aims to enhance the mobility of individuals who rely on public transportation. This initiative is also expected to benefit businesses and institutions that depend on a reliable transit system for their operations and employees.

Dwight Ferrell, General Manager at SMART, articulated the essence of the SMARTer Mobility Study: “The SMARTer Mobility Study is not just about evaluating our current system; it’s a testament to our dedication to fostering a transit network that aligns with the needs and aspirations of our communities. We’re not merely seeking change; we’re inviting collaboration and engagement from our riders and partners to co-create a transit system that works for everyone.”

The SMARTer Mobility Program is more than just a transit initiative; it's a long-overdue acknowledgment of the everyday struggles and needs of Detroit's residents, particularly our Black community. For too long, the voices calling for tangible improvements in public transportation have been echoing in the halls of decision-making without sufficient response. Now, with the focus on enhancing and interconnecting transportation throughout Oakland, Macomb, and Wayne counties, it feels like those voices are finally being heard. This isn't just about convenience; it's about creating a system that truly serves the people, a system that understands that efficient and accessible transit is key to empowering our communities. By committing to excellence in service provision, SMART is laying the foundation for a future where everyone in southeast Michigan, regardless of their neighborhood or background, can access opportunities, connect with one another, and thrive. This is a step towards not just mobility justice but also racial and social equity.

For the Black community in Detroit, this initiative resonates on a deeper level. It's a sign that we're seen, our needs are acknowledged, and our contributions to this city are valued. Reducing wait times, extending routes to areas that have been historically overlooked – these aren't just logistical changes. They're a move towards dismantling the barriers that have hindered our community's access to jobs, education, and essential services. It's about reaffirming our right to move freely and safely in our city. SMART's commitment to revamping the transit system symbolizes a shift towards inclusivity and respect for all residents. This is more than just transport reform; it's about writing a new chapter in Detroit's story – one where equity drives the narrative, and our community's voice is not just heard but is instrumental in shaping the future.

SMART's commitment to community engagement is evident in this call for input. All riders and community members are urged to participate and contribute to this vital initiative. While registration is required for the online Zoom meetings, it is not necessary for the in-person sessions. Further information and details for Zoom registration can be found on SMART's dedicated website, <https://www.smarter-mobility.org/>.

In conclusion, the SMARTer Mobility Program stands as a beacon of community-driven change, setting a precedent for how public transit authorities can work hand in hand with the communities they serve. The outcome of these meetings and the subsequent implementation of their findings could very well serve as a model for other regions striving to achieve a more inclusive and effective public transit system.

LOCAL NEWS

SMART seeks input from riders at interactive meetings

A series of in-person and online meetings give residents a chance to share their opinions





By **SUSAN SMILEY** | ssmiley@medianewsgroup.com | Macomb Daily
PUBLISHED: January 13, 2024 at 12:21 p.m. | UPDATED: January 13, 2024 at 12:21 p.m.



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Beginning this week, SMART will host a series of interactive meetings, both in person and online, to give riders an opportunity to share their public transportation priorities.

SMART officials say they want to revamp transportation services in increase accessibility and reach communities that current routes may overlook.

“The SMARTer Mobility Study is not just about evaluating our current system; it’s a testament to our dedication to fostering a transit network that aligns with the needs and aspirations of our communities,” said Dwight Ferrell, General Manager at SMART. “We’re not merely seeking change; we’re inviting collaboration and engagement from our riders and partners to co-create a transit system that works for everyone.”

SMART wants to understand riders’ priorities, preferences and destinations as it moves forward with enhancing service. By minimizing wait times and extending services to areas previously underserved, SMART aims to empower individuals reliant on public transportation and to benefit the businesses and institutions that rely on those individuals to keep their operations running.

At its core, the SMARTer Mobility Study represents a comprehensive evaluation of all mobility modes, infrastructure, and routes within the SMART network. It is designed to address the critical need for enhanced and interconnected public transportation throughout Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties. T

In person meetings will be held:

Jan. 23 at 6 pm – Richmond Community Center, 36164 Festival Drive, Richmond

Jan. 24 at 6:30 pm – Novi Public Library, 45255 W 10 Mile Road, Novi

Jan. 25 at 6 pm – Henry Ford College, 5101 Evergreen Road, Dearborn

Feb. 5 at 6 pm – SMART Royal Oak Transit Center, 202 S Sherman Drive, Royal Oak

Feb. 6 at 6 pm – Redeemer United Methodist Church, 20571 Vernier Road, Harper Woods

Feb. 7 at 6 pm – Macomb Community College Center Campus, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp.

Feb. 8 at 6:30 pm – Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Twp.

Online meetings are scheduled for the following dates and can be accessed by going to smarter-mobility.org:

Jan. 16 at 6 pm

Jan. 17 at 1:30 pm

Jan. 29 at 11:30 am

Feb. 1 at 6 pm

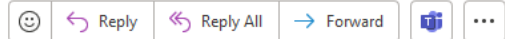
Registration is required for online meetings, but not for in-person meetings.



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To Katherine Bryant



Thu 1/18/2024 3:52 PM

Bloomfield Township Public Library Seeks Millage Renewal



Please watch this video as Bloomfield Township Public Library Director Tera Moon explains the upcoming Millage Renewal Proposal to provide updated funding for their continued services.

[Read About the Millage Renewal](#)

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Bloomfield Township Public Library Eighth Annual Photo Contest

Bloomfield Township Public Library Eighth Annual

PHOTO CONTEST



Picture Perfect Patterns

January 8 - March 17, 2024



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www.btpl.org/photo-contest



Winners will be announced and honored at a special reception at the Library on **Saturday, April 13, 2024, from 2-4 p.m.** Look for additional details on the Library's website.

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Township library holds annual photo contest

Bloomfield Township residents are invited to enter the eighth annual Bloomfield Township Public Library photo contest, which runs until March 17.

The theme of this year's contest is "Picture Perfect Patterns."

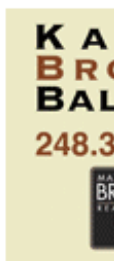
Residents of all ages are invited to explore the captivating world of patterns in everyday lives. Patterns surround us, from the intricate designs in nature to the geometric shapes of cityscapes and the repetitive forms in textiles and architecture. Residents are encouraged to unleash their creativity whether through black and white compositions, vivid color contrasts, or abstract interpretations.

"This contest provides an opportunity to showcase local artistic talent, but also fosters a sense of community and shared appreciation for interesting perspectives and the beauty that surrounds us. We encourage Bloomfield Township residents of all ages to participate and celebrate their unique vision as part of this beloved event," said Katherine Bryant, assistant director of the library.

Photo submissions can be color or black and white, and in either a digital or print format. To be eligible, photos must be taken by Bloomfield Township residents between March 27, 2023, and March 17, 2024. Entries will be grouped into three age categories: Children ages 12 and under; teens, 13 to 18, and adults.

The deadline to enter photos is March 17, 2024 at midnight. Winners will be announced and honored at the photo contest reception on Saturday, April 13.

Additional details, contest rules, and photo contest entry forms can be found at btpl.org/photo-contest.



NEWS

SMART plans meetings in Macomb, Oakland, Wayne counties on future of transit system



Eric D. Lawrence

Detroit Free Press

Published 6:07 a.m. ET Jan. 15, 2024 | Updated 6:07 a.m. ET Jan. 15, 2024

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SMART is planning community meetings in January and February to gather feedback on what residents of Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties want to see in their public transit system. *David Rodriguez Munoz, Detroit Free Press*

SMART says it wants to hear from residents of metro Detroit about their transit needs and expectations, and what they'd like to see from the system in the future.

The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is launching a series of public meetings in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties as well as online sessions beginning next week to gather feedback.

The meetings “aim to understand riders' destinations, preferences and priorities — crucial inputs that will shape SMART's future service enhancements,” according to a news release.

More: [Shuttle bus from downtown Detroit to Metro Airport to begin service in March](#)

The effort is part of what the system is calling the “SMARTer Mobility” study, which SMART General Manager Dwight Ferrell, said is “not just about evaluating our current system; it's a testament to our dedication to fostering a transit network that aligns with the needs and aspirations of our communities. We're not merely seeking change; we're inviting collaboration and engagement from our riders and partners to co-create a transit system that works for everyone.”

Some of the goals of the program, according to information posted on SMART's website, include establishing microtransit — seen currently as the FLEX on-demand option — as a permanent service, creating a “user-friendly app for all transit service,” ensuring that services are integrated and expanding public transit within new service areas.

More: [RTA weighing proposal for QLINE control](#)

Harmony Lloyd, SMART's vice president of planning and innovation, said the project has been underway since the fall, and it's now time to meet with the public. The effort aims to gather a clearer picture of what residents want from public transit, whether that's more buses on different routes, shorter frequency of service or whether they want microtransit. Lloyd said it's not realistic to put microtransit in every community so SMART wants "to be thoughtful about where those zones go."

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Detroit Free Press

Recommendations will be developed out of the public meetings in the summer and then brought back to the public for hearings where they'll be presented and another round of feedback will be gathered. Implementation could happen as soon as January 2025, Lloyd said.

The online meetings will require registration. For information or to register, go to <https://www.smarter-mobility.org/>

In-person meetings:

■ Jan. 23 at 6 p.m. — Richmond Community Center, 36164 Festival Drive, Richmond ■ Jan. 24 at 6:30 p.m. — Novi Public Library, 45255 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi ■ Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. — Henry Ford College, 5101 Evergreen Road, Dearborn ■ Feb. 5 at 6 p.m. — SMART Royal Oak Transit Center, 202 S. Sherman Drive, Royal Oak ■ Feb. 6 at 6 p.m. — Redeemer United Methodist Church, 20571 Vernier Road, Harper Woods ■ Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. — Macomb Community College – Center Campus, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp. ■ Feb. 8 at 6:30 pm — Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Twp.

Online Zoom meetings:

■ Jan. 16 at 6 p.m. ■ Jan. 17 at 1:30 p.m. ■ Jan. 29 at 11:30 a.m. ■ Feb. 1 at 6 p.m.

Contact Eric D. Lawrence: elawrence@freepress.com. [Become a subscriber.](#)

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Bloomfield Township Public Library seeks millage renewal

By: Mary Beth Almond | Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle | Published January 23, 2024

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — The Bloomfield Township Public Library plans to ask voters to approve a millage renewal in February that officials say would keep the library on solid financial footing.

On the Feb. 27 presidential primary ballot, Bloomfield Township residents will be asked to consider renewing the library’s existing millage rate, which Library Director Tera Moon said would allow the library to maintain its current level of funding.

The library — which serves the 44,235 residents of Bloomfield Township with resources, technology, and support for all ages — is supported by three separate millage rates, two that are levied in perpetuity and one that expires at the end of 2023.

The Feb. 27 proposal will ask Bloomfield Township voters to consider renewing the 2023 expiring millage at the current rate of 0.5047 mill for 10 years.

“That millage accounts for 27% of our current revenue, so it’s really important to the library operations,” Moon explained.

Voters approved a 10-year levy of 0.5410 mill in 2014. Moon said the current rate of 0.5047 mill is a result of Headlee rollbacks. The renewal, she added, will not increase current tax payments and would continue to cost the average taxpayer approximately \$151 per year on a home with a taxable value of \$300,000.

Taxpayers, she added, will see a lower tax bill from the library in 2024 as a 20-year bond payment for a 2008 building improvements project is now paid off.



Voters will be asked to consider a millage renewal for the Bloomfield Township Public Library during the Feb. 27 election. If the millage renewal passes, library officials say the funding would allow the library to maintain and grow up-to-date collections of books and media and continue offering a variety of library programming, among other things. Photo provided by the Bloomfield Township Public Library

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"There were bonds that were sold 20 years ago in order to do the building improvement project for the library, the way it is now, and that is expiring as well, so voters are going to see a reduction in their tax bill, in terms of the library this year, no matter what," she said.

If the millage renewal passes, the library will work to achieve the goals of the 2023-2025 strategic plan, which Moon said all focus on making the library "as inclusive and excellent as possible" for residents. The funding, she explained, would allow the library to retain current service levels, hours and staffing; maintain and grow up-to-date collections of books and media; expand technology and digital resources; reimagine library spaces; continue offering a variety of library programming; and repair and maintain its building and grounds, including to the roof and lower level.

"Our building is 15 years old now, and parts of it are going on 60 years old, so there are always repairs and renovations that need to be made," she explained. "Our parking lot's not in the greatest shape. We have some roofing problems. We have a flooding problem on our lower level that we have been trying to tackle for many, many years — so there are many building maintenance needs that we have."

If the millage renewal fails, Moon said the library would have to make "serious cuts to hours, services, staffing and programming." She said that could potentially mean fewer programs for children and adults, limited building improvements, less access to new technology and digital resources and limited collections.

People can learn more about the millage renewal proposal during two upcoming public informational sessions at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Feb. 15 at the library. All are welcome, and no registration is required to attend the informational sessions.

"As someone who lives in the township and is raising a family in the township, the library is so much more than just a place where we check out books — it's a place where we meet; we've had playdates there; and lately, it's become a place where people charge their phones when there's a power outage. We don't have any parks in the township, so it really is a community hub for so many people, so it is such an important part of our community for people of all ages," said Library Board President Dani Gillman. "I feel like the library is such a special place, because everybody is welcome and everybody has the same access to all of what is offered in the library no matter what you look like, what's in your wallet, what language you speak, and that is such a special thing."

More information about the millage renewal proposal can be found at btpl.org/millage-renewal.

For more information, call the library at (248) 642-5800 or visit www.btpl.org.



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Township library seeking millage renewal

On the February 27 presidential primary ballot, Bloomfield Township Public Library is asking township voters to renew the 2023 expiring millage at the current rate of .5047 mill for 10 years in order to maintain the existing level of funding for the library.

According to the library's board of trustees, Bloomfield Township Public Library is currently supported by three separate millage rates, two of which are levied in perpetuity and one of which expires at the end of 2023. The proposal being presented to voters on the February 27 presidential primary ballot asks township voters to consider renewing the millage which expired in 2023 at the current rate of .5047 mills for another 10 years. The renewal request would not increase current tax payments, and would continue to cost the average township taxpayer approximately \$151 per year on a home with a taxable value of \$300,000, according to library director Tera Moon.

According to Moon, this funding accounts for approximately 27 percent of the library's current total revenues.

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"The library is a vibrant pillar of the community, serving the 44,235 residents of Bloomfield Township with resources, technology, and support for all ages," said Moon. "If the millage renewal is approved, the library will work to achieve the goals of the 2023-2025 strategic plan and continue its award-winning operations of the last several years. If the millage renewal is not approved, serious cuts to hours, services, staffing, and programming will have to be made to account for the loss of 27 percent of the library's total revenues."

For those with questions or concerns regarding the library millage renewal, the library will host four public informational sessions, on Wednesday, January 17, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Thursday, February 15, at 2 and 7 p.m. No registration is required to attend.

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Renew library tax millage

On February 27, voters in Bloomfield Township will be asked to support the renewal of a 10-year millage for Bloomfield Township Public Library which expired in 2023. The millage will remain the same, at .5047 mills for another 10-year period, 2024-2033, inclusive, and library officials estimate that this millage will raise \$2.5 million in 2024, which amounts to 27 percent of the library's total revenues. That is almost a third of the library's annual revenues.

Bloomfield Township Public Library plays an important role in the community, offering not only a collection of over 300,000 books, movies, CDs, and more, but a wide range of programming, from entertainment to educational, that is accessible to all ages. During last winter's ice storm, when many residents experienced days-long power outages, the library opened its doors as a refuge. Currently, with eight days of voter approved early voting, the township library is serving as one of Oakland County's early voting sites.

Library Executive Director Tera Moon noted that the loss of these millage dollars would force the library to make significant cuts, from library services to refurbishment of the facility. Vote **YES** to maintain this cultural community icon.





Bloomfield Township <cable_dept@bloomfieldtwp.org>
To Katherine Bryant

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Coffee With Carrie Welcomes Bloomfield Township Public Library Director Tera Moon



In the latest episode, BTPL Director Tera Moon stops by to talk about upcoming events, including the photo contest, Chamber Music concert series, "Family Fort Night," Saturday Book Sales and more. Tera also reminded us about the important Library Millage that will be on the upcoming Presidential Primary Ballot. While Election Day is February 27, Early Voting starts on February 17 and can be done at the Library. Learn more at [BT Public Library](#)



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Bloomfield Township Public Library Presents February Chamber Music Concert



Bloomfield Township Public Library and the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre, and Dance are pleased to announce the next Chamber Music Concert on Friday, February 9, at 7:00 p.m. Program details will be available from the Library closer to the concert date.

[Read About the Concert Series](#)



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Bloomfield Township Public Library Eighth Annual Photo Contest

Bloomfield Township Public Library Eighth Annual

PHOTO CONTEST



Picture Perfect Patterns

January 8 - March 17, 2024



www.btpl.org/photo-contest



Winners will be announced and honored at a special reception at the Library on **Saturday, April 13, 2024, from 2-4 p.m.** Look for additional details on the Library's website.

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Township library hosts historian, organizer

Bloomfield Township Public Library is hosting two events, Organize Step By Step on Tuesday, January 30, and historian Maurice Imhoff on the First Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment on Monday, February 5.

Both events are open to the public and no registration is required.

Emilie Rivard of Organize Step By Step will join the library on Tuesday, January 30 at 7 p.m. to offer guidance on organizing and creating space in your home, workplace, and life focused on accomplishing goals. The talk will focus on how to start, how to keep going, making decisions, and how to focus on sustainable change.

"The library is pleased to welcome Emilie Rivard to our programming. The New Year brings thoughts of organization and cleaning after the holidays. We look forward to learning about effective ways to declutter and better manage our spaces," said Brooke Hoskins, assistant department head of Adult Services.

Historian Maurice Imhoff will be featured at the library for a lecture on the history of the First Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment, later known as the 102nd United States Colored Infantry, on Monday, February 5 at 7 p.m.



Following the Emancipation Proclamation, the U.S. military formed the United States Colored Troops. Many recruits came from Detroit, southern Michigan and Ontario, Canada, to fight for freedom of family members still held in slavery. Even as Black soldiers fought and died, their citizenship status remained uncertain, and opportunities were limited.



"The library is pleased to welcome Maurice Imhoff to our programming. The history and contributions of Black soldiers from the Michigan area are of great significance. We look forward to learning more about the early authorization of the Regiment to its present-time remembrance," said Hoskins.



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Bloomfield Township Public Library Hosts Historian Maurice Imhoff

BTPL is pleased to host historian Maurice Imhoff for a lecture on the history of the First Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment, later known as the 102nd United States Colored Infantry, on Monday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m.

[Read More About This Talk](#)



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Bloomfield Township Public Library Second Saturday Book Sale


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Second Saturday Book Sale

February 10
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Friends members get in ONE HOUR EARLY from 10 - 11 a.m.

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SMARTer Mobility Program



Upcoming Public Meetings!

Join our upcoming meetings and be a part of the SMARTer Mobility Study. We need YOUR input how to make the SMART transit network work better for YOU!

Come meet us in person

Jan 23 at 6:00pm

Richmond Community Center
36164 Festival Dr, Richmond

Jan 24 at 6:30pm

Novi Public Library
45255 W 10 Mile Rd, Novi

Jan 25 at 6:00pm

Henry Ford College
5101 Evergreen Rd, Dearborn

Feb 5 at 6:00pm

SMART Royal Oak Transit Center
202 S Sherman Dr, Royal Oak

Feb 6 at 6:00pm

Redeemer United Methodist Church
20571 Vernier Rd, Harper Woods

Feb 7 at 6:00pm

Macomb Community College
Center Campus 44575 Garfield
Road, Clinton Twp.

Feb 8 at 6:30pm

Bloomfield Township Public Library
1099 Lone Pine Rd, Bloomfield Twp.

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Jan 16 at 6:00pm

online via Zoom

Jan 17 at 1:30pm

online via Zoom

Jan 29 at 11:30am

online via Zoom

Feb 1 at 6:00pm

online via Zoom

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Enjoy chamber concert at township library

The University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre and Dance, along with the Bloomfield Township Public Library, will host a chamber music concert on Friday, February 9, at 7 p.m.

The concert is free and open to everyone, with no registration required.

The program will be available from the township library closer to the concert date.

Additional concerts in the series will be held on March 8 and April 12.

For more information, contact the library at 248.642.5800 or btpl.org.

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Library Second Saturday Book Sale February 10

The Friends of Bloomfield Township Public Library will hold its Second Saturday Book Sale Saturday, February 10, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

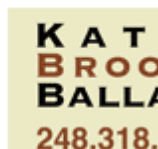
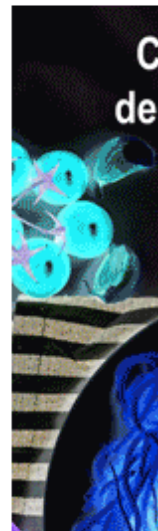
The sale takes place on the lower level of the library and includes thousands of books and audiovisual materials for all ages and interests, conveniently sorted into more than 50 categories.

Features in this month's sale include travel guides and travel narratives, vegan and vegetarian cookbooks, books on health and home, as well as children and adult books in a variety of languages. Of particular note is that the sale always includes a wide array of subjects and a room dedicated to music and film.

Visa, MasterCard, and debit cards are accepted with a \$15 minimum purchase.

Friends members may shop the sale early from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and memberships can be purchased at the door on the day of the sale.

In addition, The Library Shop, located just inside the library, remains open during library hours, and offers a selection of gently used books, movies and music, as well as cards and gifts. The Friends are also continuing to accept donations of books and media in good condition.



Deadline approaching for library’s annual photo contest

Amateur photographers invited to capture photos with ‘Picture Perfect Patterns’

By: Mary Beth Almond | Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle | Published February 7, 2024

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP — Through March 17, Bloomfield Township residents can showcase their creativity by submitting entries in the library’s annual photo contest.

The Bloomfield Township Public Library has hosted its amateur photo contest for eight years now.

“It’s a great way for our residents to participate in telling their own stories,” said Assistant Library Director Katherine Bryant. “The library is all about stories, and not everybody is a writer or a storyteller, but a lot of people are very visual, so this is a way that some of our visual artists can tell their story at the library.”

This year’s theme, “Picture Perfect Patterns,” encourages entrants to explore the captivating world of patterns in everyday lives within the frame of their photo. Photos can be taken anywhere.

“It’s a challenge to our township photographers to look for interesting, unique, creative patterns in nature, architecture — anything geometric,” Bryant explained.

Submissions to the contest can be in color or black and white, digital or print. People of all ages are eligible to compete, as long as the shutterbug is a resident and the image was shot between March 27, 2023, and March 17, 2024.

The contest is very popular, according to Library Director Tera Moon, who said it usually draws around 100 entries.



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"It gives our residents an opportunity to express themselves artistically and interact with the library in a way that is not typical," she said. "It's also a really nice way for patrons to interact with each other and share their love of photography."

Entries will be grouped into three age categories — 12 and younger, 13-18, and 19 and older. The deadline to enter photos is midnight March 17, and people can enter no more than two photos.

After the submission deadline, all the entries will be posted on the library's webpage, where patrons can vote for their favorite photo to win the People's Choice Award.

Judges will also select winners in each category, which will be announced at a special reception Saturday, April 13. Their work will also be displayed in the library's lobby.

Additional details, contest rules and photo contest entry forms can be found at btpl.org/photo-contest or by calling the library at (248) 642-5800. The Bloomfield Township Public Library is located at 1099 Lone Pine Road in Bloomfield Township.

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Township library hosting Inside Out art exhibit

Throughout the month of February, Bloomfield Township Public Library is hosting "Inside Out" – an exhibit presenting a sampling of art in published form.

According to the library, the presentation offers a spectrum of styles and techniques ranging from high-tech offset printing to the humble rubberstamp.

Creators with work in the exhibition include superstars like Andy Warhol to pseudonymous and lesser-known Xerox artists and zine makers from all over the globe. Visitors will find nearly 100 printed items including magazines, portfolios, artists' books, artistamps, risographic zines, postcards and lovingly gathered loose leaf anthologies of multiple originals. The exhibit is about communication, exploration, and sharing offered in tangible, accessible and portable forms. The exhibit covers a 50-year history of independent, wildly varied, and inspiring art.

The show is part of the personal collection of Bloomfield Township resident Charlton Burch in conjunction with his editorship of Lightworks Magazine, a Michigan visual arts publication which began in 1974.



or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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ANDREAS SUPANICH, News Desk Supervisor

NOLAN FINLEY, Editorial Page Editor

OUR EDITORIAL

Keep local tax issues off presidential primary ballot

Michigan law requires local communities to get voter permission before raising or renewing taxes or issuing revenue bonds. But the law doesn't require them to put those measures on the ballot in an election when the maximum number of voters are expected to cast ballots.

It should.

It's become a favored tactic of local governments to slip through tax proposals in an election in which few voters participate. The underhanded practice is aimed at improving the chances of passage, since it's easier to impact low-turnout elections with messages to targeted voter groups. It's particularly egregious to place tax questions on a presidential primary ballot, which by their partisan nature encourage large numbers of voters to stay home.

When Michigan holds its presidential primary on Feb. 27, 10 communities and school districts in Oakland and Macomb counties will be seeking approval for tax levies. Wayne County has no local proposals on its ballot.

Pontiac is asking voters to OK a lengthy write-through of its marijuana licensing ordinance. Bloomfield Township wants a renewal of a \$2.5 million library millage. And Walled Lake is seeking renewal of its 4.2 mill public safety millage. The rest of the proposals involve renewals of school millages in the Almont, Lake Orion, Lake Shore, Rochester, Romeo, South Lyon and West Bloomfield districts.

None of the tax renewal requests seem out of line, although voters should carefully review them to be certain they've delivered the results that were promised when originally adopted. The objection is to their timing. They should have waited for an election with higher anticipated participation, and one in which voters would expect to see such proposals on the ballot. Michigan's 2020 presidential primary drew just 31% of the electorate.

These partisan primaries consistently see



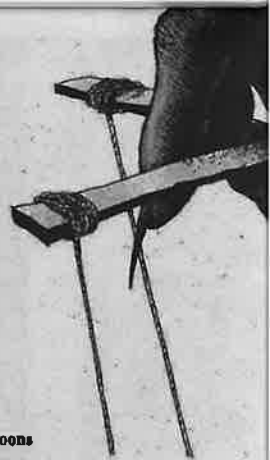
Robin Buckson / The Detroit News

The concern is that many voters aren't aware there will be local issues decided in the presidential primary nominating election.

the lowest voter participation. Large numbers of voters skip the presidential primary because they don't identify as either Republican or Democrat, and assume they have to declare a party preference before they can vote. They don't. Independents and supporters of third parties can request a non-partisan ballot that allows them to vote just on local proposals.

The concern is that many voters aren't aware there will be local issues decided in the presidential primary nominating election.

Lawmakers should close this shortcut to raising taxes. Tax measures should be limited to November elections to assure they have the broad support of the affected taxpayers.



X@Ramireztoons

Is Nikki Haley enough to

BY BRETT PATRICK

Donald Trump emerged victorious in Hampshire's GOP primary, and his margin was significant, Nikki Haley won among crucial constituencies — more college graduates and self-identified independents. As the former South Carolina governor and U.N. ambassador continues her campaign, her environmental agenda remains a pillar of her candidacy and appeals to young voters.

Republican hopefuls should take notes.

Conservatism has entrenched ties to the environmentalist movement, from conservation and ecological protection to passionate outdoorsmanship. Republicans historically pioneered efforts to protect ecological promises. President Ronald Reagan signed the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act in 1986, addressing hazardous waste cleanup. Teddy Roosevelt, George H.W. Bush, and Richard Nixon were all instrumental in implementing conservationist policies.

The Republican Party's more recent rhetoric on climate, however, is complicated.

Despite conservatism's longstanding ties to the environmentalist movement, young Republicans' skepticism regarding the scientific consensus on human-induced climate change has led candidates to outright deny its existence. These stances in the Republican Party have snubbed previous generations of conservative environmentalists and are repugnant to young voters.

Based on her talks in New Hampshire, Haley's innovative stance on climate change could establish the traditional conservative position on the environment and bring younger voters back to the Republican Party.

During the campaign, Haley continued to emphasize the importance of clean air and a better world for future generations. She called on other nations for being polluters and demanding

Border policies enabling human trafficking



February YOUTH Events Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				01 Baby Story Time 10:30 a.m. Storytelling with Ms. Gwen 6:30 p.m.	02 Tots & Friends Playtime 10 a.m. - 12 noon Vintage Video Game Night 6:30 p.m.	03 Winter Puzzle Tournament 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
04	05	06 Preschool STEAMtime 10:30 a.m. Reading with the Dogs 6:30 p.m.	07 Toddler Story Time 10:30 a.m. Virtual Family PJ Story Time 7 p.m.	08 Baby Story Time 10:30 a.m.	09 Tots & Friends Playtime 10 a.m. - 12 noon	10 Friends of the Library Sale 11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sensory Story Time 11 a.m.
11	12 Art Lab Junior 6:30 p.m.	13 Preschool STEAMtime 10:30 a.m. My First Book Group Grades K - 1 5:30 p.m.	14 Toddler Story Time 10:30 a.m. Paperbacks & Snacks Grades 4-6 6:30 p.m.	15 Baby Story Time 10:30 a.m. Stuffed Animal Sleepover Drop Off 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.	16 Tots & Friends Playtime 10 a.m. - 12 noon Stuffed Animal Sleepover Pick Up Noon - 6:30 p.m.	17
18	19 Brick Builders 7 p.m.	20 Preschool STEAMtime 10:30 a.m. Winter Game Day 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.	21 Toddler Story Time 10:30 a.m.	22 Baby Story Time 10:30 a.m. Art Lab 6:30 p.m.	23 Tots & Friends Playtime 10 a.m. - 12 noon	24
25	26 Book Worms Grades 2 - 3 6:30 p.m.	27	28	29		

VISIT WWW.BTPL.ORG/EVENTS FOR MORE INFO

VINTAGE VIDEO GAME NIGHT

Friday, February 2, 6:30 p.m.
No registration is required.



We're bringing out our favorite old-school consoles and games for a fun after-hours event! For ages 8 - 12.



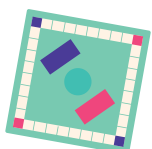
SENSORY STORY TIME

Saturday, February 10, 11 a.m.
Registration is required.

This is an inclusive preschool story time that welcomes all families looking for an adaptive story time experience. For children of all abilities, ages 3 and up with their grownup.

WINTER GAME DAY

Tuesday, February 20, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
No registration is required.



Game on! Try a new game or challenge family and friends to a classic from our wide selection of board and card games. For ages 6 and up.

STORYTELLING WITH MS. GWEN

Friday, February 1, 6:30 p.m.
No registration is required.

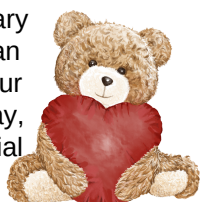


Storyteller and educator Gwendolyn Lewis welcomes you to engage in an interactive storytelling session celebrating Black History Month as she shares African culture through songs, dance, drummin', and more! For ages 5 and up.

STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER

Thursday, February 15, 4 p.m.- 6 p.m. drop off your stuffy
Friday, February 16, Noon - 6:30 p.m. pick up your stuffy
Registration is Required.

Do you ever wonder what happens at the library when it's closed? Guess what? Your stuffy can spend the night and find out for you! Bring your stuffed animal to the Youth Room on Thursday, February 15 and pick it up, along with a special souvenir, the next day! A link to the photo slideshow will be sent to all participants a few days after the program concludes.



STORY TIMES



Virtual Family PJ Story Time

(Live on Zoom) Wednesday, February 7, 7 p.m.

Registration is required.

For the entire family to join from the comfort of their home. Register to get your Zoom link and come in before to pick up a craft kit that will go along with the theme!

Preschool STEAMtime Story Time

Preschoolers ages 3 and up without an adult.
Tuesdays, January 16 – February 20, 10:30 a.m.

Registration is required for the 6-week session.

Preschoolers can get their first chance to independently explore STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) through stories, rhymes, and music.



Toddler Story Time

Wednesdays, January 17 – February 21, 10:30 a.m.

Registration is required for the 6-week session.

Simple stories, fingerplays, songs, movement, and play for toddlers, 18-35 months, with their grownup.

Baby Story Time

Thursdays, January 18 – February 22, 10:30 a.m.

Registration is required for the 6-week session.

Lap bounces, simple stories, fingerplays, songs, and play for babies, birth – 17 months, with their grownup.

PLAY & BUILD PROGRAMS



Tots and Friends Playtime

Fridays, 10 a.m. – 12 noon

No registration is required.

Drop in for unstructured play, building, and discovery in the Story Room. Caregivers and little ones of all ages can interact with toys and books that support each child's learning and development. Adaptive toys for children with low vision, motor difficulties, or other accessibility needs will be included.

Brick Builders – Pet Theme

Monday, February 19, 7 p.m.

No registration is required.



Junior architects, ages 6 and up, are invited to join us for building fun with LEGO bricks. Create your own masterpiece or do a theme building challenge with your friends.

BOOK GROUPS



All registered participants get a free copy of the book to keep!

My First Book Group: Grades K – 1

Kindergarten and Grade 1 with an adult.

Tuesday, February 13, 5:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Book Worms: Grades 2 – 3

Monday, February 26, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Paperbacks & Snacks: Grades 4 – 6

Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

ART PROGRAMS

Art Lab Junior

Participants must be 7 – 9 years old.

Monday, February 12, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Kids will focus on the process of creativity while exploring art with different materials.

Art Lab

Participants must be 10 – 13 years old.

Thursday, February 22, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Explore different forms of art mediums in this creative program.



OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS



Winter Puzzle Tournament

Saturday, February 3, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Registration is required.

Our tournament is back! Puzzle players of all ages and levels may compete in teams of 2 – 4 players for a chance to win fun prizes. Gather your puzzle-loving family and friends!

Reading With the Dogs

Tuesday, February 6, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.



Readers, ages 5 and up, are invited to share a story with a furry friend at the Library. Therapy dogs and their handlers will be ready to listen. This is a great opportunity to practice reading skills in a comfortable setting with no judgment from the dogs!

Call Youth Services to register for a 15-minute session.

Questions? Contact the Youth Department – Call (248) 642-5800 or email AskYouth@btpl.org



Please contact us if you require any additional accommodations.



1099 Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Township, MI 48302
(248) 642-5800 | www.btpl.org



March YOUTH Events Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					01 Stories & Stuff Subscription Book Boxes Grades 3 - 8 All Day	02 Read Across America Day
03	04	05 Reading with the Dogs 6:30 p.m.	06	07	08	09 Friends of the Library Sale 11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sensory Story Time 11 a.m.
10	11 My First Book Group Grades K - 1 5:30 p.m.	12	13 Virtual Family PJ Story Time 7 p.m.	14 Paperbacks & Snacks Grades 4-6 6:30 p.m.	15	16
17 	18 Art Lab Junior 6:30 p.m.	19 Book Worms Grades 2 - 3 6:30 p.m.	20	21 Art Lab 6:30 p.m.	22	23
24	25 Disney Movie Marathon 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.	26 Brick Builders 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.	27 Cranbrook Science On the Go 6:30 p.m.	28 Introduction to Performance Art 2 p.m.	29 Tots & Friends Playtime 10 a.m. - 12 noon	30
31 						

VISIT WWW.BTPL.ORG/EVENTS FOR MORE INFO

BOOK CHARACTER SCAVENGER HUNT

Entire Month of March
No registration is required.



See if you can find one of your favorite book characters hidden all around the Youth Room during the month of March. Stop by the Youth Services Desk for more details.



KINDERGARTEN READERS' ROUNDUP

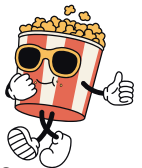
March 1 - March 22

We are celebrating emerging readers by inviting local kindergarten classes to our Kindergarten Readers' Roundups during National March is Reading Month. Students will tour the Youth Room, enjoy a fun skit by librarians with favorite book characters, and so much more. Details are available through your local elementary school.



DISNEY MOVIE MARATHON

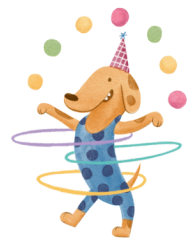
Monday, March 25, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
No registration is required.



Stop by the Story Room for a viewing of some favorite classic and contemporary Disney films! Popcorn and water provided. Family fun for all ages.

INTRODUCTION TO PERFORMANCE ART

Thursday, March 28, 2 p.m.
Registration is required.



This interactive program features a performer from Motley Misfits who will introduce audience members to different styles of performance art and provide opportunities to try out some amazing flow props such as veil fans, dancing silks, and spinning plates. The show includes a mixture of presenter performances and audience participation. For ages 6 and up.



STORY TIMES

Sensory Story Time

Saturday, March 9, 11 a.m.

Registration is required.

Join us in an adaptive story time experience for youth of all abilities, including those who have difficulty in large groups and who have sensory integration challenges. Participants can expect stories with gentle multisensory engagement, visual aids, adaptive movement, low lights, and low sounds. For children ages 3 and up with a grown-up.

Virtual Family PJ Story Time

(Live on Zoom) Wednesday, March 13, 7 p.m.

Registration is required.

For the entire family to join from the comfort of their home. Register to get your Zoom link and come in before to pick up a craft kit that will go along with the theme!

PLAY & BUILD PROGRAMS



Brick Builders - Favorite Book Theme

Tuesday, March 26, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

No registration is required.

Junior architects, ages 6 and up, are invited to join us for building fun with LEGO bricks. Create your own masterpiece or do a theme building challenge with your friends.

Tots and Friends Playtime

**Fridays, March 29 - May 31 *no program April 5 or May 3*
10 a.m. – 12 noon**

No registration is required.

Drop in for unstructured play, building, and discovery in the Story Room. Caregivers and little ones of all ages can interact with toys and books that support each child's learning and development.

Adaptive toys for children with low vision, motor difficulties, or other accessibility needs will be included.

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

Reading With the Dogs

Tuesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.



Readers, ages 5 and up, are invited to share a story with a furry friend at the Library. Therapy dogs and their handlers will be ready to listen. This is a great opportunity to practice reading skills in a comfortable setting with no judgment from the dogs! Call Youth Services to register for a 15-minute session.



Cranbrook Science on the Go: Web, Wings, and Crawly Things

Wednesday, March 27, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Explore fascinating adaptations of insects, arachnids, and more. This hands-on program investigates anatomy and behavior using models, mounted specimens, and assorted live insects from the collection at the Cranbrook Institute of Science.

For budding entomologists, ages 5 and up.

Questions? Contact the Youth Department – Call (248) 642-5800 or email AskYouth@btpl.org

BOOK GROUPS



All registered participants get a free copy of the book to keep!

My First Book Group: Grades K – 1 Kindergarten and Grade 1 with an adult.

Monday, March 11, 5:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Book Worms: Grades 2 – 3

Tuesday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Paperbacks & Snacks: Grades 4 – 6

Thursday, March 14, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.



ART PROGRAMS

Art Lab Junior

Participants must be 7 – 9 years old.

Monday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Kids will focus on the process of creativity while exploring art with different materials.

Art Lab

Participants must be 10 – 13 years old.

Thursday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required.

Explore different forms of art mediums in this creative program.

APRIL SAVE THE DATE

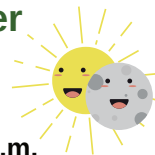
Michigan Science Center

Portable Planetarium:

Eclipse Science

Thursday, April 4, 5:30 p.m. OR 7 p.m.

Registration is required.



Explore the phenomenon of solar and lunar eclipses and journey with us on the path of totality. Learn how light and shadow play a crucial role in creating these breathtaking events and get a sneak peak of the 2024 North American Solar Eclipse on April 8. For Ages 8 and up.



Eclipse-A-Palooza

Thursday, April 4, 4:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

No registration is required.

Join us for fun eclipse and space themed activities on your schedule when you're visiting the Library. There will be a scale model of the solar system, eclipse art to make and take home, constellations to explore, and more.




Please contact us if you require any additional accommodations.





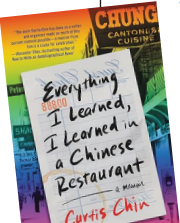
Bloomfield Township Public
Library

1099 Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Township, MI 48302
(248) 642-5800 | www.btpl.org

February 2024 Adult and Teen Programs

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February Special Lectures and Events @ the Library History Lecture: The First Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment with Maurice Imhoff, Monday, February 5, 7 p.m. Join Maurice Imhoff for a lecture on the history of the First Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment, later known as the 102nd United States Colored Infantry, discussing its early authorization to its present-time remembrance. University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre, and Dance Chamber Music Concert, Friday, February 9, 7 p.m. Talented student musicians from will thrill audiences with stirring performances of chamber music pieces. Make sure to mark your calendar for the remaining Chamber Music Concert series dates on March 8 and April 12 at 7 p.m.				1 Adult and Teen Craft Kit Release: Wooden Heart Découpage <i>Bloomfield Twp. residents only while supplies last</i>	2 English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon	3 **Winter Puzzle Tournament 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. 
4	5 History Lecture: The First Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment with Maurice Imhoff 7 p.m.	6 Fiber Arts Club 10 a.m. – Noon **Movie Discussion Club 7 p.m.	7 *Teen Crafting Conversations 4 p.m. **Pages Across Nations: An International Book Club 7 p.m.	8 **Don't Get Scammed 5:30 p.m.	9 English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon After Hours Concert: University of Michigan Chamber Music Concert 7 p.m.	10 Saturday Book Sale Friends of the Library Second Saturday Book Sale 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. <i>(First hour Friends members only)</i> 
11	12 Adult and Teen Craft Kit Release: Beeswax Wrap <i>Bloomfield Twp. residents only while supplies last</i> Fiber Arts Club 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. 	13 Memoir Writing Group, 1 p.m. **Bridgerton Tea, 2 p.m. ***Computer Basics, 5:30 p.m. Soft Art and Sensory Scapes with nat s.p., 7 p.m.	14 **Writers' Rendezvous 6:30 p.m. 	15 ***Google Apps 5:30 p.m. 	16 English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon	17
18	19 **Lunchtime Book Club, 1 p.m. 	20 **Tuesday Book Club, 10 a.m. Winter Game Day, 1 – 4 p.m. ***Microsoft Excel I, 5:30 p.m. **Science Fiction / Fantasy Book Club, 7 p.m.	21 **Mystery Book Club 1 p.m. 	22 **Thursday Book Club, 10 a.m. ***Introduction to Scanning and Photo Editing, 5:30 p.m. **Live Cooking Demonstration with Mary Spencer of Taste: A Cook's Place, 7 p.m.	23 English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon	24
25	26 **Monday Night Book Club 7 p.m. 	27 **What's Your Story?: A Memoir Writing Group 1 p.m. ***Microsoft Excel II 5:30 p.m.	28 **Writers' Rendezvous 6:30 p.m.	29 **Meet the Databases 5:30 p.m. ADULT DATABASES 	**Register by emailing AskTeen@btpl.org or with Adult Services, (248) 642-5800, ext. 171. **Register by emailing AskAdult@btpl.org or with Adult Services, (248) 642-5800, ext. 171. ***Register by emailing AskTech@btpl.org or with Systems, (248) 642-5800, ext. 121. OR register online at www.btpl.org/events	

March 2024 Adult and Teen Programs

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p>*Register by emailing AskTeen@btpl.org or with Adult Services, (248) 642-5800, ext. 171.</p> <p>**Register by emailing AskAdult@btpl.org or with Adult Services, (248) 642-5800, ext. 171.</p> <p>***Register by emailing AskTech@btpl.org or with Systems, (248) 642-5800, ext. 121.</p> <p>OR register online at www.btpl.org/events</p>		<p>March is</p> <h2>READING MONTH</h2> <p>~ Celebrate with Special Events @ the Library ~ For a full listing of programs and activities, visit www.btpl.org/readingmonth</p> <p>Teen Book Cover Design Contest, March 4 – April 4</p> <p>Ask a Librarian: How Do I Find Good Books?, Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m., Registration is required.</p> <p>Book Discussion: <i>Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant</i> by Curtis Chin, Tuesday, March 12, 7 p.m., Registration is required.</p> <p>Author Visit: Curtis Chin, Monday, March 25, 7 p.m., Registration is required.</p>			<p>English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon</p>	1	2
3	<p>Teen Book Cover Design Contest Begins through April 4</p> <p>Visit www.btpl.org/teen for more information</p>	<p>Fiber Arts Club, 10 a.m. – Noon</p> <p>**Movie Discussion Club, 7 p.m.</p> <p>**Lecture: Climate Change as of 2024 – Simple, Serious, Solvable with Chris Edwards 7 p.m.</p>	<p>***PowerPoint Basics 5:30 p.m.</p> 	<p>**Ask a Librarian: How Do I Find Good Books? 7 p.m.</p>	<p>English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon</p> <p>After Hours Concert: University of Michigan Chamber Music Concert 7 p.m.</p>	<p><small>FRIENDS OF THE BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY</small></p> <h2>Saturday Book Sale</h2> <p>Friends of the Library Second Saturday Book Sale 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (First hour Friends members only)</p> 	
10	<p>Fiber Arts Club 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.</p> 	<p>**What's Your Story?: A Memoir Writing Group 1 p.m.</p> <p>**Book Discussion: <i>Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant</i> by Curtis Chin 7 p.m.</p>	<p>***Google Apps 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>**Writers' Rendezvous 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>**AARP Tax-Aide – Free Tax Assistance</p> <p>Register by calling West Bloomfield Parks & Rec (248) 451-1900</p>	<p>English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon</p>	16	
17	<p>Adult and Teen Craft Kit Release: Hand Sewn Springtime Bunny and Carrot Softies Bloomfield Twp. residents only while supplies last</p> <p>**Lunchtime Book Club 1 p.m.</p>	<p>**Tuesday Book Club 10 a.m.</p> <p>***Microsoft Excel I 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>**Classics Book Club 7 p.m.</p>	<p>**Mystery Book Club 1 p.m.</p>  <p>Mystery Book Club</p>	<p>***Scanning and Photo Editing 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon</p>	<p>**Genealogy Workshop with the Daughters of the American Revolution, Piety Hill Chapter, and Sons of the American Revolution, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p>Register by emailing pietyhillregistrar@gmail.com</p>	
24	<p>**Monday Night Book Club 7 p.m.</p> <p>**Author Visit: Curtis Chin 7 p.m.</p> 	<p>**What's Your Story?: A Memoir Writing Group 1 p.m.</p> <p>***Microsoft Excel II 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>**Writers' Rendezvous 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>**Thursday Book Club 10 a.m.</p> 	<p>English Language Conversation Group 10 a.m. – Noon</p> <p>After Hours Concert: wilder/hall 7 p.m.</p>	30	

DATES FOR LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Saturday, February 17 – Sunday, February 25 – Early Voting

Tuesday, February 20, 7:00 p.m. – Library Board Meeting (all Trustees)

Tuesday, February 27 – Election Day (Vote on Library Millage Renewal
Ballot Proposal)

Thursday, February 29, 10:00 a.m. – Development Committee

Thursday, March 7, 9:00 a.m. – Budget Work Session

Friday, March 8, 7:00 p.m. – Chamber Music Concert

Saturday, March 9, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Friends Second Saturday
Sale (with the first hour, 10-11 a.m., open to Friends members only)

Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 p.m. – Library Board Meeting (all Trustees)

Saturday, April 13, 2:00 p.m. – Photo Contest Reception

Tuesday, April 30, 7:00 p.m. – Ambassadors Group