

FDL Public Library Board Minutes
May 20, 2021

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: On Thursday, May 20, 2021 via Zoom, the regular meeting of the Fond du Lac Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Board President, Mel Kolstad. Trustees present: Tiffany Brault, Anne Deacy, Mel Kolstad, Dusty Krikau, Jerry Letcher, John McDowell, Jay Myrechuck, Sharon Simon and Brendan Wood-Taylor. Members absent: Marilyn Averbeck. Those also in attendance included Library Director Jon Mark Bolthouse, Administrative Assistant Laurie Moore, Assistant Director for Operations Lori Burgess, Information and Outreach Services Coordinator Alana LaBeaf, Youth Services Coordinator Sarah Davis and Library Technology Coordinator Josh Cowles.

2. Approval of Minutes:

A. Discussion and possible approval of minutes from the April Regular Meeting of the Board. Motion to approve the minutes as presented: McDowell; second: Myrechuck; carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Input: The Library received a thank you card from Envision Greater Fond du Lac for being a location for one of the Lemonade Day stands. Also, we received a certificate of gratitude from the Salvation Army for helping out with people who are experiencing homelessness and the many other things we do.

** Deacy arrived at 4:35 pm. **

4. Comments from the Public: None.

5. Correspondence (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Bank Statement from Seefeld Trust for April 2021

6. Approval of Financial Reports:

A. List of bills paid since the last regular meeting: Motion to approve the bills as presented: Krikau; second: Deacy; carried by roll call vote: yes nine (9); noes none (0); absent and not voting one (1).

B. Statement of Accounts: Motion to approve as presented: Krikau; second: Simon; carried by unanimous voice vote.

7. Director's Report:

A. Monthly Library Statistics

* The Library was the beneficiary of \$50,000 towards the Endowment Fund. The Friends of the Fond du Lac Public Library also was a beneficiary of \$50,000 from the same gentleman's estate. The recommendation is for the Friends to be a major donor in the solar project.

* The library was the recipient of a \$98,000 grant for replacing light fixtures with LED lamps. The plan is to have the Library spread the goodwill about the program, and hopefully put together a presentation to share at WLA, etc.

* The strategic plan is going well and Kolstad feels very optimistic after the last meeting. Burgess pointed out that achieving the past goal of the Library being a hub in the community came through very clear in the survey. WILS did a great job of cross-referencing and bringing in great data points and wonderful statistics.

* Planning for the summer reading program is taking up a lot of staff time right now. The plan is to set a community reading goal, and if that goal is reached, to do some sort of community reward.

* The plan moving forward starting in June for the Library Board Meetings is to setup in the McLane Meeting Room, for whomever would like to attend in person, and still do a virtual meeting for the rest of the attendees.

8. Old Business:

A. Response to COVID-19 Pandemic: Motion to strike the wording requiring masks be worn from the Appropriate Behavior Policy: Myrechuck; second: Letcher; carried by unanimous voice vote. Bolthouse is looking for decisions to be made on how to handle patrons and staff wearing masks while in the Library. On Saturday, the Library saw at least 3

issues that escalated with patrons. Bolthouse shared that the City/County government building has gone to making masks optional. Other than the Senior Center, the Library is the only City building requiring masks at this point. As of Sunday, due to the issues, Jon Mark directed staff not to engage with patrons who are not wearing masks. Kolstad feels that if it is better for staff to not have to engage, then we should not require patrons to wear masks anymore at this point. Bolthouse suggested signage saying masks are strongly suggested. Krikau feels that stating “please wear a mask” on signage is much politer.

Simon feels that for staff, we should follow suit with what the City building is doing, and wear a mask when serving the public. Per Bolthouse, the plexiglass will remain in place, along with social distancing guidelines. Burgess shared that some staff are still wearing gloves, and staff in her department are very split as to how they feel about continuing to wear masks. Davis feels that none of her staff in the Children’s Room will decide to remove their masks at this point. LaBeaf has a very split staff, but feels that if staff are working with the public, they should be wearing masks. Brault shared that she would feel better removing masks when children have all had the chance to be vaccinated. Bolthouse is not looking for a motion, but basically just support from the Board on how to handle staff masking. Davis wants to do what is in the best interest of the children, which is the reason she has not put toys out at this point yet either. The Board as a whole did give Bolthouse their support in having staff continue to wear masks when in the face of the public.

9. New Business:

A. None.

10. Other:

A. None.

11. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Letcher; second: Myrechuck; carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting was adjourned by Board President Mel Kolstad at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Deacy
Secretary