

FDL Public Library Board Minutes

February 15, 2024

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: On Thursday, February 15, 2024 in the Midstates Meeting Room and via Zoom, the regular meeting of the Fond du Lac Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by Board President, Dusty Krikau. Trustees present: Tiffany Brault, Anne Deacy, Rebekah Gary, Dusty Krikau, Jay Myrechuck, Julie Schroeder, Sharon Simon and Brendan Wood-Taylor. Members absent: Antonio Godfrey. Those also in attendance included Library Director Jon Mark Bolthouse, Assistant Director of Operations Lori Burgess, Youth Services Coordinator Sarah Davis, Information and Outreach Services Coordinator Melanie Kearn, Public Relations Coordinator Ian Stepleton and Administrative Assistant Laurie Moore.

2. Approval of Minutes:

A. Discussion and possible approval of minutes from the January Regular Meeting of the Board. Motion to approve the minutes with change noted: Myrechuck; second: Brault; carried by unanimous voice vote; abstention from Simon. Myrechuck noted a correction – Gary left at 4:42 and arrived at 4:43 (not 4:33 as is listed in the minutes).

3. Comments from the Public: Two members from the public spoke.

* Patrick Konen, a resident of Fond du Lac County, spoke regarding an appeal of the decision to not reconsider the book titled *The Book of Séances*. He stated that he considers the material dangerous and inappropriate for young adults. He also stated that he understands the library's mission, but is concerned about the effect of the book on their lives. He would like to appeal to the board on the denial. Krikau asked where this reconsideration is in the process. Bolthouse shared that a letter of reconsideration was submitted and denied, so now it is up to the board to handle the appeal. Krikau stated she will take a serious look at the book.

* Linda Uselmann spoke thanking the library for their involvement and inclusiveness, regardless of beliefs.

4. Correspondence (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Bank Statement from Seefeld Trust for January. Krikau questioned the \$60,000 that came out of the trust in January. Moore explained that this was for Seefeld funds that were transferred over to the city budget in December 2023, but did not clear the bank until January of 2024.

5. Approval of Financial Reports:

A. List of bills paid since the last regular meeting: Motion to approve the bills as presented: Simon; second: Wood-Taylor; carried by roll call vote: yes eight (8); noes none (0); absent and not voting one (1).

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

6. Director's Report:

A. Monthly Library Statistics

* Bolthouse shared that the new location of the Buechel Branch opened on February 1st. Not everything was ready to go, but we were able to do a soft opening. Spectrum was at the branch today to get some work done. Krikau requested that an invite be sent out to City Council and County Board members for the grand opening on February 21st.

* The solar project is close to going to bid. Bolthouse shared that the power to the building did not need to be shut down to test the electrical board. They did state that the board will easily be able to handle the addition of the solar panel.

* Bolthouse shared multiple flyers with the board from Library Legislative Day. One of the big things to note from this visit was a parental controls bill that is being discussed. Simon said she met with Senator Feyen and Representative Bodden and they are both very supportive of libraries.

* Davis shared with the board the information about the upcoming Bluey Party on Saturday 2/24/24 from 10:00 – 12:00 and is looking for any board members who would want to join and help. Bolthouse also requested the board members to

consider attending other community events that the library will be attending in the upcoming months. A new event for this year is the Fond du Lac County Fair. Board members will plan to email Bolthouse with events they are able to attend.

* Myrechuck left at 4:59 pm.

* Simon asked about the patron behavior issues mentioned in the report and if they are getting better. Bolthouse said some changes that have been made have helped, but some of the issues did require no trespass orders to be issued. Simon also thanked the library for all their support to the people experiencing homelessness.

* Deacy asked about the seed garden mentioned in the report. Bolthouse was inquiring if the board feels we should go ahead with it, even though the library did not win the grant money. Krikau asked what costs are associated with it. Burgess shared that the numbers she gave at the grant presentation were as follows: \$5500 for the tower, \$750 for the seeds, and the remainder for programming, marketing and the follow-up round costs. Also, Master Gardeners are willing to donate 100 packets of seeds to get us started. Davis shared that the Extension Office also reached out to her about donating seeds, but that would be the Master Gardeners. Wild Ones Fox Valley has many wildflower seeds that they would possibly donate to the library. Krikau mentioned that she believes STEM has a hydroponic garden, and maybe it would be nice to partner with them, seeing as they are closed over the summer. Wood-Taylor also mentioned possibly getting seeds from Gottfried Prairie & Arboretum.

* Krikau mentioned how the hyperlinks in the reports are not coming through on the pdf when the board packet is sent out. Please make sure the links are in the report when sent to the board members. Krikau shared that the Wild Wisconsin Winter web link in Melanie's report has lots of library board information.

* Krikau questioned the issues in the teen space and if there has been any brainstorming on how to handle those. Bolthouse shared that they have a meeting set up next week to discuss this issue.

* Krikau asked for an update on the CESA 6 workshop, and if all staff can be a part of that. Bolthouse shared that it was kept to just the Design Lab staff.

7. Old Business: Missing Child Policy: After much discussion, this is being postponed to the March meeting, after Bolthouse has time to consult with the police department and City of Fond du Lac attorney Deb Hoffmann. Bolthouse made the changes requested and included a copy of the YMCA's policy. Bolthouse informed JJ at the YMCA that once our new policy has been approved, he will share a copy with the YMCA. Brault commented on how the YMCA does a lockdown. It was shared that the board decided at the last meeting that the library is not able to do that, due to how we handle tornadoes, etc. Simon questioned if waiting 10 minutes before calling 911 is normal. Deacy agrees that 10 minutes seems like a long time, and possibly 5 minutes would be better. Simon suggested talking to the police department and asking them when they would like to be notified of a missing child. Bolthouse will contact the police department and ask them for guidance on a time frame. Krikau informed the board that she is happy to entertain a motion with the policy in its current form and adjust it in the future as needed. Deacy questioned what would be considered "reasonable efforts" to delay the departure of the person accompanying the child. The board would like Bolthouse to check with the police on what they think about staff involvement in this scenario. Schroeder questioned if the board were to approve this policy and change it in the future, would it confuse staff. Gary felt that after the policy is approved, a training day with the police department and YMCA would be a good idea. Wood-Taylor suggested that it would be a good idea to add that staff should be calling from a cell phone, but Bolthouse shared that it is already procedure for staff to call 911 from a cell phone. Krikau feels that Deacy has a valid point regarding staff involvement. She would like Bolthouse to get police input and speak with attorney Deb Hoffmann due to possible liability on the library. Due to this reason, Krikau withdrew the idea of entertaining a motion.

8. New Business:

A. Annual Report: Approval of the annual report is being postponed until a date has been set for a special meeting, while Bolthouse has a chance to finish collecting the data needed. Bolthouse shared that the report is almost complete, but he still needs to collect more data before entering the final numbers. He does need approval on the statement of effectiveness and a signature before the report can be sent in. Bolthouse will share the document digitally when it is completed and will

get a time set on Thursday 2/22/24 for a special board meeting to approve the report. Krikau will come in to take care of the signature on the report.

9. Other: None.

10. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Simon; second: Wood-Taylor; carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting was adjourned by board president Dusty Krikau at 5:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Deacy
Secretary