

**Bridges Library System Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 17, 2023 - FINAL**

**PRESENT:** In person: Linda Ager, Art Biermeier, Betsy Forrest, Jim Heinrich, Diane Knutson, Larry Nelson, Amy Reichert, Jean Yeomans, Nancy Wilhelm; Via ZOOM: Robert Kraus, Anthony Gulig

**EXCUSED:** None

**OTHERS:** In Person: Karol Kennedy, Bridges Library System Director; Mellanie Mercier, Bridges Library System Automation Coordinator; Emily Heller, Public Communications Coordinator; Bruce Gay, Waukesha Public Library Executive Director and Resource Library Representative; Brittany Larson, Muskego Public Library Director; Via Zoom: Genavieve Danes, Butler Public Library Director and APL Representative, Alex Klosterman, Waukesha County Senior Financial Analyst

Call to order: Linda Ager, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Muskego Public Library in Muskego.

Introductions: Introductions were completed after the call to order.

Comments from the Public: None.

Correspondence: Bridges Library System received a note of congratulations and thanks from the StoryCorps founder, Dave Isay and StoryCorps CEO Sandra Clark. Connie Meyer, former Bridges Director, sent a thank you card.

Meeting Minutes: A Biermeier/Forrest motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2023, meeting as presented passed unanimously.

**ACTION ON THE BILLS REPORT**

*Bills Reports:* A Heinrich/Knutson motion to approve the monthly invoices for funds 210 and 215 for April 2023, as submitted passed unanimously.

*Financial Reports:* A Heinrich/Reichert motion to approve the financial report for funds 210 and 215 ending April 30, 2023, as submitted passed unanimously.

**REPORTS**

*Bridges Director's Report:* Karol Kennedy welcomed the new Public Communications Coordinator, Emily Heller to Bridges Library System. She shared that the Library Passport Challenge was set to kick off on June 1, 2023. This encourages patrons to visit each of the

libraries within the Bridges Library System. Karol also shared that she attended the Waukesha County Executive and Finance Committee meetings to provide information on the pending ordinance to modify the Bridges Library System 2023 budget to accept and expend the Family Caregiver Alliance \$20,000 award.

*Staff Report:* Karol Kennedy shared the recent Library Memory Project feature in the *engAGED*, *The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults* brochure.

*APL:* Brittany Larson shared that the group met at Jefferson Public Library and the Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) President Laura Sauser attended. Laura spoke about the importance of joining WLA as an individual and on an institutional level. WLA serves as an advocate and support system for the libraries. Databases and electronic resources were also discussed as part of the 2024 budget.

*Resource Library:* The Waukesha Public Library Board elected to provide an Overdose Aid Kit (OAK) at the Waukesha Public Library that is available to the public. They also held a half day of staff training on security. WPL is finalizing an update to their public art collection which features a QR code that provides patrons with the artist information.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

*2023 Library Directors Retreat Presenter Agreement:* This contract is an agreement with Rachel Arndt to present an in-person program at the 2023 Library Directors Retreat. A Yeomans/Wilhelm motion to approve the presenter agreement was made and passed unanimously.

*2023 Bridges Trustee Appreciation Presenter Agreement:* This contract is an agreement with Barbara Reinhart to present an in-person program at the 2023 Bridges Library Trustee Appreciation program. A Wilhem/Nelson motion to approve the presenter agreement was made and passed unanimously.

*Wisconsin Libraries Buildings & Spaces Professional Development Agreement:* This contract is an agreement with Robin Jones to provide an online recorded presentation on library buildings and spaces ADA compliance and accessibility. A Yeomans/Biermeier motion to approve the presenter agreement was made and passes unanimously.

*Trustee Essentials Chapter 17: Membership in the Library System* - An overview of this chapter of the Trustee Essentials: A Handbook for the Wisconsin Public Library Trustees was provided. This chapter focuses on the requirements of membership and required system services library systems need to provide to receive state aid.

*Next meeting:* Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. as a hybrid meeting at the Hartland Public Library.

At 4:47 p.m., a Wilhelm/Biermeier motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by:  
Rachel McCracken  
Executive Assistant

Respectfully Submitted:  
Jean Yeomans  
Board Secretary