

Bridges Library System Board Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2024
Bridges Library System Office

PRESENT: In person: Linda Ager, Art Biermeier, Betsy Forrest, Jim Heinrich, Diane Knutson, Robert Kraus, Larry Nelson, Nancy Wilhelm, Jean Yeomans
Via Zoom: Amanda Golson

OTHERS: In person: Karol Kennedy, Bridges Library System Director; Mellanie Mercier, Bridges Library System Automation Coordinator; Emily Heller, Public Communications Coordinator; Nicole Purifoy, Bridges Library System Executive Assistant; Bruce Gay, Waukesha Public Library Executive Director and Resource Library Representative
Via Zoom: Kris Dexheimer, Powers Memorial Library Director and APL Representative

Call to order: Linda Ager, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Introductions were completed after the call to order.

Comments from the Public: None

Correspondence: The finalized 2025 Bridges Board Meeting Schedule was provided.

Meeting Minutes: A Biermeier/Kraus motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024, meeting as presented passed unanimously.

ACTION ON THE BILLS REPORT

Bills Reports: A Heinrich/Forrest motion to approve the December 2024 monthly invoices as presented passed unanimously.

Financial Reports: A Heinrich/Biermeier motion to approve the November 2024 financial reports for funds 210 and 215 as presented passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Director: Karol noted recommendations are still being sought for an additional board member and reported on her attendance at a meeting regarding the exemption process for libraries and funding standards. Karol gave a brief overview of Library Legislative Day 2025 and noted that more details will be made available soon. Karol also gave recognition to Mukwonago Community Library Director, Abby Amour, for being named an ALA I Love My Librarian Honoree for 2025. Karol announced that Bridges Library System Coordinator of Library Development, Laurie Freund, will retire in April 2025 and Karol also announced her retirement, to take place in June 2025.

Staff: Mellanie noted that Emily is working on a social media post similar to “Spotify Wrapped” which will highlight the top circulated books and audio books in 2024.

APL: Kris reported that the last APL meeting covered discussions on policies and procedures regarding intellectual freedom, Advantage programs and Lucky Day and requirements for the 2025 Library Innovation and Improvement grant. 2025 officers were also nominated.

Resource Library: Bruce reported on the recent staff training day at the Waukesha Public Library and noted that the library is now a dementia friendly workplace. Bruce also mentioned several repairs taking place at the library. Bruce also reported that the donor wall from the library’s capital campaign project is now complete.

System Director’s Goals for 2025: A Kraus/Wilhelm motion to approve the Director’s 2025 goals as presented passed unanimously.

Appoint Nominating Committee for 2025 Officers: Art Biermeier, Nancy Wilhelm and Jean Yeomans were reappointed to the committee by Linda Ager.

Advertising Initiatives: Google 360° Library Photos and Tours and Destination Library Direct Mail Postcard Campaign: Emily Heller gave a presentation on some of the marketing and advertising projects undertaken in 2024.

Next Meeting: January 15, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Bridges Library System office.

At 5:34 PM a Biermeier/Knutson motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by:
Nicole Purifoy
Executive Assistant