

Bridges Library System Board Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2019

PRESENT: Linda Ager, Dick Nawrocki, Larry Nelson, Jim Heinrich, Art Biermeier, Rose Sura, Nancy Wilhelm, Howard Pringle, Jean Yeomans, Dwayne Morris

Excused: Amy Reichert

OTHERS: Connie Meyer, Bridges Library System Director; Eric Robinson, Dwight Foster Public Library Director and APL representative; Gerard Saylor, L. D. Fargo Public Library Director and Meg Henke, Bridges Library System Administrative Specialist

Call to order: Linda Ager, the Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Dwight Foster Public Library. Introductions were completed as well.

Comments for the Public: None.

Correspondence: Linda Ager, Board President, received a letter of funding notification for the final payment of 2019 state aid to libraries from Kurt Kiefer at the Department of Public Instruction.

Meeting Minutes: A Nawrocki/Biermeier motion to approve the minutes for the April 2019 Bridges Library System Board meeting as presented passed unanimously.

ACTION ON THE BILLS REPORT

Bills Report: A Heinrich/Morris motion to approve the monthly invoices for funds 210 and 215 for May 2019 as submitted passed unanimously.

REPORTS

APL: Eric Robinson reported that APL discussed 2020 database selections. They will be participating in a demo of the Hoopla digital subscription to see if it has value as a new service to offer in 2020. Hoopla is similar to OverDrive and features audiobooks, music, movies, and graphic novels. Mellanie will be doing a collection overlap comparison between Hoopla and OverDrive. The Hoopla model is different than OverDrive in that the subscription is billed per use and there are no holds lists. It would be considered as a supplement to OverDrive not a replacement. The digitization project prioritization of sources was discussed.

Resource Library Report: Bruce Gay provided a written report for the Board in his absence. The report stated WPL administration held preliminary meetings with architects about the redesign of the first floor of the library to better meet public needs. The library hosted a volunteer luncheon for its volunteers on April 25. Approximately 40 people attended a presentation on healthy eating from the Waukesha YMCA. The Board of Trustees voted to change the Library's hours beginning on Tuesday, September 3rd. The Friends of the Library hosted their annual "Mystery Mingle" at the library on April 26th. Planning continues for the library's 13th year of Waukesha Reads. The event will be in fall. More information about the program will be available in summer.

Bridges Staff Report: Meg Henke reported the parking structure for 741. N. Grand is under renovations to repair the aging structure. Parking will be minimally available when visiting the Bridges offices this summer.

Bridges Director's Report: The state budget process is underway. Three options are under consideration including: 1) a 2020/21 modest increase of \$2million/\$4million respectively to improve services to libraries which was included in the Governor's budget; 2) a status quo budget which would actually require a \$2 million increase in the budget over the biennium to achieve a new base budget amount due to the one-time budget increase in the 2019-2020 budget; or 3) no action, which would revert the funding level to the 2017 budget amount resulting in a funding decrease of \$1.5 million. Amy Loudenbeck from Rock County has been our budget champion in support of a budgetary increase for public libraries. Budget planning at Bridges Library System will be status quo for 2020 assuming 2019 numbers and a 'wish list' from staff and member libraries in the event that budget option #1 is supported by joint finance and the state legislature. Waukesha County budget kick off is the first week in June. A Memorandum of Understanding for fiscal agent and other services has been drafted and is under review with Corporation Counsel. It will likely be ready for Board review at our next meeting. A meeting is going to be set up with DPI representatives, Baker Tilly (auditor) and the head of Waukesha County accounting services (Danielle Igielski) to discuss the interpretation of the statutes and administrative code related to the need for a separate audit. Interested trustees are welcome to attend.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Memorandum of Understanding – Independence First accessibility scans – The scope of the work is to provide scans for Hartland and Dwight Foster Public Libraries. \$1,700 was budgeted in 2019 for these scans. Thank you to Angela Meyers for her hard work in making these possible for our libraries in 2018 and working with our vendor to negotiate a rate that fits our 2019 budget. A Pringle/Sura motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as submitted passed unanimously.

Digitization Project Priorities: Connie presented the list of local newspapers under consideration for digitization project. She learned the day before the board meeting that the *Waukesha Freeman* has actually already been completed as part of newspapers.com. The *Daily Jefferson County Union* is digitized but needs to be put onto the platform. The *Lake Country Reporter* has a large geographic area of coverage with 194 reels in total. Not all of the *Lake Country Reporter* could be finished in 2019 but a significant portion could be digitized and the remainder could be completed in 2020. Badgerlink offers newspapers.com access so there is no need to digitize the *Waukesha Freeman*. There was discussion about prioritization and long term goals for the project. Perhaps library communities will be able to secure local funding to help support this project as well. A Morris/Biermeier motion to move forward with migrating/digitizing the *Daily Jefferson County Union* and *Lake Country Reporter* passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan Update: Meyer stated updates are posted on the Bridges Library System website. No new updates since last Board meeting.

PLSR Update: Meyer reported that the PLSR process is officially over and that COLAND received its final briefing. She is happy that the libraries of the Bridges Library System and our trustees were engaged and participated in the process. Any recommendations that move forward will be implemented and coordinated by DPI. Some segments of the plan will be piloted and then evaluated before implementation. An LD&L committee is beginning to look at the state's library system aid formula for ways it might be changed to help address equity issues. Kathy Klager, retired Director of the Pauline

Haass Public Library, is on that committee. It's hoped that any change will be gradual and seek fairness to allow all library systems to succeed. One success of the PLSR project has been the breakdown of silos across systems resulting in groups working together more frequently.

Next meeting: **Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.** at the **Delafield Public Library (500 N. Genesee Street, Delafield, WI).**

At 7:10 p.m., a Nawrocki/Wilhelm motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by:

Meg Henke
Administrative Specialist

Respectfully Submitted:

Amy Reichert
Board Secretary