

Berkley Public Library Board Meeting Minutes 18 November 2020

Present: Matt Church, Library Director (virtually attending from Berkley); Rita Van Brandeghen (virtually attending from Berkley), Chairperson; Amanda Rhoda (virtually attending from Berkley), Carol Hermann (virtually attending from Berkley), and Mary Jo Armstrong (virtually attending from Berkley), Board Members; Natalie Price (virtually attending from Berkley), City Council liaison.

Meeting convened 7:01 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Minutes from 21 October 2020 meeting were approved.

Librarian's Report:

The Library Director presented his reports on programs, services, and staff. Highlights of the report included:

- Curbside delivery continues to be offered to the public, six days per week.
- The Library Network began an auto renewal service for library materials in October. Patrons no longer need to call the library or access their account online to renew items.
- Vitrine Gallery and gifts set up two outside displays featuring a woodblock artist's images. A 15-minute video was shared on the library's and Vitrine's social media pages as well as the community cable channel.
- The annual State of the Cities event was virtual this year. Information regarding the library was shared.
- The Friends started a book bundle purchasing program. DVD bundles have also been created/offered.
- The city postponed staff training sessions.
- The library director continues to attend department head meetings virtually.
- City hall was closed to the public this week.
- The library will have extra copies available for patrons participating in the "Battle of the Books".
- Programs and services were reviewed including: 30 people participating in virtual storytimes; 83 people taking home youth craft kits; 19 teens taking home teen craft kits; 16 teens participating in the college essay workshop; 17 people participating in Tuesday Afternoon Book Club; and 5 people participating in an Adult Book Club.

Old Business:

- October circulation was reviewed. Circulation is holding steady with new auto renewal from TLN assisting with numbers.
- Book bundles continue to be a popular choice for patrons.
- COVID response data was reviewed. It was noted that there were two positive cases recently at City Hall. Safety precautions remain in place at the library.

New Business:

- Library board applicants were reviewed, and candidacy was discussed. The board will be conducting interviews for selected candidates at the next board meeting.

Update from City Council Liaison:

- Natalie reported that the city is expecting a visit from Santa; Santa will likely be visiting throughout the community of Berkley to maintain COVID safety precautions. Further details have not yet been released.
- The Beautification Committee will be participating in photographing and judging holiday light displays from the community, with the Holiday Spirit Award given to the best display.
- The LaSalette property was approved as a commercial rehab property.

Other Matters

No other matters were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Next meeting – 7 p.m. Wednesday, 16 December 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Jo Armstrong