

Berkley Public Library Board Meeting Minutes 18 May 2022

Present: Matt Church, Library Director; Rita Van Brandeghen, Chairperson; Carol Hermann, and Jordan Paterra, Board Members; Natalie Price, City Council liaison.

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Minutes from 20 Apr 2022 meeting were approved as printed.

Librarian's Report:

The Library Director presented his reports for January on programs, budget, meetings and staff. Highlights of the reports include:

- The Tuesday Afternoon Book Club held their first in-person meeting since the pandemic began in April. They have decided to continue to meet in person.
- The library has made free COVID tests and KN95 masks provided by the Michigan Dept. of Health and Human Services available for pick up at the library. We will continue to do so as long as supplies are available. Curbside pick up is also available for these items.
- The library hosted a training and development day for city staff. Two training sessions and lunch were provided by Henry Ford Health Systems.
- The Friends will host a popup book sale on Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- The next meeting of the Friends will take place Monday, May 23 at 7 p.m. at the library.
- Matt continues to attend department head meetings and meets virtually with local library directors to discuss COVID plans.
- Matt has been researching the library establishing law with the City Attorney. The law was originally established in 1946 and they are trying to determine whether the law falls under Public Act 164 or not. This is being looked at to determine how the city might wish to present a ballot proposal for a Headlee override sometime next year.
- Programs were well attended in April.
- The library saw more rentals of the meeting room by outside groups in April.
- City Council approved the FY 2022-2023 budget at their May 16th meeting.
- Matt will present the library's fee schedule for amendment to City Council on June 6th to eliminate overdue fees and increase the collection agency charge from \$10 to \$12.
- Three new accounts were referred for collection this month after resuming collection practices that had been suspended for the past 2 years.

Old Business:

- April circulation numbers were down slightly from March of 2022, but up considerably from April of last year.
- There was nothing new to report regarding COVID.
- The board continued review and discussion of the Library Board's establishing ordinance in order to make suggestions for updates to the city attorney and council. The final two sections were discussed, suggestions were noted. The proposed changes will be put together to be reviewed by the board before submission for review by the City Attorney, and, subsequently, the Council.

New Business:

- Mary Jo Armstrong has resigned her board position.
- The vacancy will be posted and applications accepted through May 25th.
- Board members will receive copies of the applications for review and each member shall forward to Matt (and not each other) a list of their top 3 candidates by June 2nd. Matt will collect these individual choices to determine which 3 candidates will be brought in for interviews.
- Board members should be prepared to interview prospective candidates at our Wed., Jun 15th meeting.

Update from City Council Liaison:

- There were no new updates from our City Council Liaison, Natalie Price, but Natalie was very helpful in locating information within the city ordinance pertinent to our Establishing Ordinance discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.

Next meeting – 7 p.m., Wednesday, 15 June 2022

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Hermann