

Meeting of the
Menomonie Public Library Board of Trustees
May 20, 2021 @ 6:00

Via Zoom: a link to the recording of the meeting follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/JcvrdiBU0RHJzqQ1HycJQxH9aCLxnwAzjh79FQ3laZRf9G3XJ147LZ1lidD96Vwe.UxNmx2P1n4lyBNyw>

Minutes:

1. Call to order: by Vice President Flaschenriem at 6:00 PM.
2. Roll Call:
 - a. Present: Don Kuether, Scott Flaschenriem, Sara Huhmann, Darrin Witucki, John Grape, Kelly McCullough, Pat Hahn and Suzanne Gaines
 - b. Absent: Dayle Mandelson, Brian Seguin, Arlene Ockwood, and Logan Mather
 - c. Also present: Ted Stark, Director; Lisa Murray, Recording Secretary; Jodi Bird, Youth Services Manager; Debbie Nelson, Youth Services; Joleen Sterk, Circulation Manager & K. T. Gallagher, Dunn County Health
3. Certification of compliance with Open Meetings Law.
4. Welcome to new member McCullough: He introduced himself and is our City Council representative. He is also a Dunn County Supervisor.
5. Approval of agenda: We have two additions to the agenda: K. T. Gallagher is joining us tonight from Dunn County Health. We also need to add the Nominating Committee for Officers. Huhmann made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Hahn. APPROVED.
6. Public comments: None
7. Reading and approval of the minutes:
 - a. April 15th minutes: Kuether noted a typo on item 11a: "marks should be masks." Kuether moved to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Gaines. APPROVED.
 - b. May 6th Special Meeting minutes: McCullough moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Hahn. APPROVED.
8. Bills & Payroll: Witucki moved to approve the bills and payroll, seconded by Grape. APPROVED.
9. K. T. Gallagher: Dunn County Health Officer, reported on the current status of residents vaccinated against COVID-19: 33%. She discussed the new CDC guidance. She feels the library is considered "a safe haven," popular with many people who are under-resourced (highly susceptible and under vaccinated.) She feels that vaccines have been readily available since April locally, including places like the large state run sites in Eau Claire and Barron. People ages 12 and up can be vaccinated now. She said in the last week they had 12 new positive cases. She is currently recommending mass gatherings to limit to 50 people inside or 100 people outside, but if our new cases continue to stay the same or decrease for another week, she will increase those numbers to 100 inside and 250 outside. She does recommend having the option of contract tracing via attendance records.
10. Reports of the officers
 - a. Secretary's report: (Brian Seguin) None
 - b. Treasurer's report: (Sara Huhmann) None
 - c. President's report: (Dayle Mandelson)
 1. Mandelson's report was read by Flaschenriem in her absence. She said: "I am pleased to announce that Joleen Sterk has officially accepted the position of Director and will start June 1, 2021. We will officially welcome her to the position at our next board meeting."
 2. Mandelson continued, "This is Ted's last board meeting. He has been an outstanding director. I want to make a brief comment from my perspective and invite board members to say something if you'd like to. I started volunteering at the library 16 years ago and I've been on the board most of Ted's tenure. I think one of the things that makes this board unique and a pleasure to serve on is the sense of mutual respect that Ted has cultivated through his patience and shared leadership style."

3. Staff should create a press release. McCullough volunteered to proof the release along with Mandelson
- d. Director's report: (Ted Stark)
 - 1 Stark noted the Friends had a pop-up book sale in our parking lot last weekend and invited Flaschenriem to elaborate: he said they brought in \$1700 and that the Girl Scout troop that helped out was great! They may do another pop-up sale in the near future.
 - 2 D.J. Capra took down our wooden library sign for refurbishing.
 - 3 The Children's department would like to start doing in-person Storytimes again. He invited Jodi Bird to elaborate. She said they sent out a survey to the Storytime parents to see if they were comfortable coming back in with their kids and if the person reading the story could do so without their mask. Almost 90% of the respondents were ok with the maskless reader. They would be limiting the number of attendees and having people register ahead so they had information for contract tracing. Storytimes would be done at 9 AM, before the library opens.
11. Old Business:
 - a. Director's Search Committee: Witucki thanked the committee members for their assistance with a successful campaign. Sterk has accepted and the other candidate has been contacted.
 - b. COVID pandemic response: Stark discussed the new CDC guidance and the City's response. Stark suggested we begin meeting in-person for our Board meetings. The city attorney is concerned about the open meeting laws. A hybrid approach is fine: some may want to continue meeting remotely via Zoom. Staff will need to meet to discuss the mask requirement in house and determine how that will change in the future.
 - c. Stark said Cedar Corp should have documents regarding the masonry repair within a couple of weeks.
12. New business:
 - a. The library will be having a retirement lunch for Ted at 11:30 AM on May 26th.
 - b. Nominating Committee for selecting officers: Kuether and Huhmann offered to be on this committee with Flaschenriem. They will present a slate of officers at the June meeting and we will vote on that at our July meeting.
13. Agenda planning for next Board meeting:
 - a. Welcome new Director Sterk
 - b. COVID-19: Update
 - c. Tuck-pointing/Exterior facade project: Update
14. Other comments: Huhmann asked about the Dr. Seuss books that were pulled from circulation. Jodi Bird, Children's Dept. said she had them in her office to view now, but would return them to circulation soon.
15. Adjourned at 7:25 PM

Next Board Meeting: **June 17, 2021 at 6:00 PM Via Zoom**

Lisa Murray,
Recording Secretary

Date

Brian Seguin
Secretary

Date