

Minutes
Bartholomew County Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Library Conference Room
March 9, 2009

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President Stroh.

Present: Gayle Loesch, Betty Lu McGuire, Nedra Spinks, Beth Stroh, Russell Taylor and Billie Whitted. Library staff: Beth Poor, Director, Teresa Reynolds, Business Manager; Jason Hatton.

Absence: Brenda Tallent.

Approval of Minutes

Whitted moved and Taylor seconded that the minutes of the February 9, 2009 board meeting be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report

Claims 5930 through 6023 dated February 10th through March 9th were reviewed. Taylor moved and Loesch seconded that claims 5930 through 6023 in the amount of \$220,440.43 be approved for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

Reynolds advised that two additional checks have been prepared for signature and are not listed on the claims list because they are dated March 10, 2009. One check is to reimburse the Operating Fund for LSTA Talking Books expenditures in the amount of \$21,067.82 and the other to repay \$1,000.000 to LIRF that was loaned to the Operating Fund in 2008. A 2008 loan balance of \$600,000 remains to be paid back to the LIRF Fund by June 30, 2009. Both checks will be deposited on March 10. Stroh asked if we have received any tax money during the past month, and Reynolds advised we have received the balance of 2008 funds due the library.

Action Items

A. Unique Management contract for handling overdue materials. Poor advised that with the trial period ending, the board needed to decide if BCPL should continue to contract for Unique Management services. Hatton noted that as a direct result of the program since the start of the trial period we have received \$4,483 in fines while 6,971 items were returned. The staff thinks that Unique Management is making a positive difference. We have had a few complaints and some positive comments about getting materials returned to the library and available for other users. Discussion about the terms of the contract followed. Whitted asked if there are a maximum number of items that can be checked out. Poor explained that a user can borrow no more than 50 items concurrently. McGuire moved and Spinks seconded to continue the contract with Unique Management. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Returned check policy. Poor noted that Irwin Union Bank & Trust currently is waiving any fees related to bad checks. She provided a draft of a policy outlining the consequences paying the library with a bad check. McGuire suggested inclusion of forwarding items to the prosecutor. Stroh recommended, and all agreed, that we have Tom Bigley review the proposed policy before approval.

Reports

A. Library Legislation update. Poor discussed the status of SB348 regarding consolidation of library districts and mandated library services to all residents. The bill passed out of the Indiana Senate and is now at the House. She explained that if the legislation succeeds, BCPL would need to convene a committee of Bartholomew County government agencies to review services, even though BCPL already is a full-county service area. McGuire provided information that she learned from attending a Farm Bureau meeting last week and stated her concern with the number of amendments that have been attached to SB348 including an opt-out for two counties.

New Business

A. Popfest. Poor reported on the progress of a committee that is trying to “save” the event in 2009. Mark Pillar is chairing the committee and seeking monetary donations. Salin Bank holds an Indiana trademark on the Popfest name, so the concert will be renamed. Poor noted that the Columbus City Band will be presenting a concert on the Library Plaza at 7:00 pm on June 26, even if no other elements of the original Popfest can be funded. It seems likely that the Columbus East and Columbus North high school jazz bands will present a lunch concert that day as well. Tom Pickett is providing a sound system for the jazz bands and Columbus City Band. The Visitors Center will provide up to \$5,000 to be used for marketing the event.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Billie Whitted, Secretary

Beth Stroh, President