

Minutes
New Berlin Public Library Board Meeting
August 19, 2024, 6:00 P.M.
New Berlin Public Library
Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order by President Marek at 6:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Members Present: Ruth Bock, Chuck Garrigues, Nate Jung, Jill Kawala, Charlotte Kroupa, John Marek, Barb Uhen and Patti Orzel

Members Absent and Excused: Dolores Greenawalt

Staff Members Present: Natalie Beacom, Director; Lizzie Brazelton, Youth Services Librarian

Others Present: Kathy Wiemelt, President, Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library:

Kathy Wiemelt reported that the Friends will be holding a book drive, 10 A.M. – 1 P.M., on Saturday, August 24th. The next book sale is scheduled for September 20th, 21st and 22nd and a mini sale is planned for November. The proceeds from the mini sale will be used to support the Friends of the New Berlin Public Library Scholarship Program.

Consent Agenda Items:

The following items were presented on the consent agenda for approval:

- A. Minutes from Monday, July 17, 2024
- B. Next meeting date: Monday, September 16, 2024
- C. Bills and Invoices through July 25, 2024
- D. Library Activity Reports

Trustee Kawala made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. It was seconded by Trustee Bock. The motion passed 8-0.

Administrative Reports:

President's Report: President Marek reminded the board members of the online learning opportunities offered as a part of Wisconsin Trustee Training Week.

Director's Report: Director Beacom's written report is included with the agenda packet. It is available on line at the City of New Berlin's website.

Director Beacom announced that the library set another 10-year high in July with attendance of 18,772 visitors. Credit was given to the librarians and their work as "influencers." There was also record attendance at the library summer concert, Sunset

Symphony, sponsored by ProheathCare Regency Senior Communities. The event included a craft market, food trucks and children's activities. There was discussion about the lack of beverages for sale. The inclusion of additional vendors will be investigated for next year. Concerns about the lack of port-a-potties were also expressed. Signage inviting people to use the library's indoor bathrooms will be improved.

Lizzie Brazelton, Youth Services Librarian, provided a report on the Summer Reading Program which also experienced record participation. Activities included crafts, story times, movies, and an end-of-program celebration. Participants could record their progress on paper or on line through Beanstack. Positive feedback was received through Facebook, emails and in person.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Art Policy Inclusion in Material Selection Policy: Recommendations from the City Attorney were reviewed. A motion to approve the policy as suggested was made by Trustee Garrigues. It was seconded by Trustee Kawala. The motion was passed 8-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Code of Conduct Policy Revision: Recommendations from the board and staff were reviewed. A motion to approve the policy as suggested was made by Trustee Kroupa. It was seconded by Trustee Bock. The motion was approved 8-0.
- B. 2025 Equalized Value: New Berlin's equalized value rate decreased by 4.6% requiring less money for the City to qualify for the exemption from the special levy for library services.
- C. Trustee Essentials Chapter 23: Dealing with Challenges to Materials and Policies: A link to access the chapter will be sent to the trustees.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Kawala made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Trustee Kroupa. The motion passed on a vote of 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Orzel, Secretary