

Minutes
New Berlin Public Library Board Meeting
June 16, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.
New Berlin Public Library
Marion Onesti Board Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Marek at 6:03 P.M.

Attendance:

Members Present: Ruth Bock, Chuck Garrigues, Dolores Greenawalt, Charlotte Kroupa, John Marek, Barb Uhen, and Patti Orzel

Excused: Nate Jung and Jill Kawala

Staff Members Present: Natalie Beacom, Director

Friends of the Library (FOL): The next pop-up sale will be on Saturday, June 21st, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Consent Agenda Items:

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

- A. Minutes from Monday, April 19, 2025
- B. Next meeting date: Monday, July 21, 2025
- C. Bills and Invoices through May 31, 2025

Trustee Garrigues made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. It was seconded by Trustee Kroupa. The motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports:

President's Report: President Marek congratulated Director Beacom on her twentieth work anniversary at the New Berlin Public Library.

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 added that the library will be sponsoring a program featuring Abraham Lincoln in July. She also provided updates on the new partnership with Waukesha State Bank. Plans include funding for financial literacy events and co-sponsoring the Dewey Athalon with Burghardt's Sporting Goods at ProHealth Care Park.

Old Business:

- A. *Waukesha County Community Foundation 2025 Mid-Year Summary*- The financial report was reviewed by the board. President Marek requested that the financial reports be submitted for the board's quarterly review. A representative from the foundation will meet with the board at our January meeting. The possibility of watching the foundation's annual meeting as a group via Zoom was discussed.
- B. *Election of Officers* – The following slate of candidates was submitted for consideration by the Nominating Committee: John Marek, President; Jill Kawala, Vice-President; Patti Orzel, Secretary; Nate Jung, Treasurer. President Marek asked three times for additional nominations; there were none. Trustee Orzel made a motion to close the nominations. It was seconded by Trustee Kroupa.

The motion was approved 7 – 0. A subsequent motion to approve the slate of candidates was made by Trustee Greenawalt. It seconded by Trustee Kroupa. The motion was approved 7 – 0.

New Business:

- A. *Green Space Patio for Rocking Chairs* – Plans are under way to better utilize the library’s outdoor space. One of the suggestions is to pave the northeast corner of the green space for a quiet reading area furnished with rocking chairs. The Friends of the Library will provide funding and the Parks and Recreation Department will do the construction. A motion to approve the project was made by Trustee Garrigues and seconded by Trustee Greenawalt. In the course of discussion, the possibility of building a small amphitheater for hosting outdoor story times and other small performances was raised. A motion was made by Trustee Orzel asking Director Beacom to evaluate the priority of both projects and report her findings to the board at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bock. It was approved 7-0.

- B. *Monthly Reporting*- Director Beacom asked if additional information in her monthly report might be helpful to the board. It was suggested by President Marek to report the attendance and circulation data in a rolling twelve-month format as opposed to a month-by-month comparison as a more effective way to monitor long term trends.

CLOSED SESSION:

- A. *Director’s Evaluation Process*: A motion was made by Trustee Bock, seconded by Trustee Kroupa, to adjourn into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes to consider the Director’s Annual Evaluation. The motion was passed on a vote of 7-0. The meeting was adjourned in to closed session at 6:40 p.m. President Marek returned the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A motion was made by Trustee Garrigues to approve the Director’s evaluation. It was seconded by Trustee Kroupa. The motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Greenawalt made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Trustee Garrigues. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Orzel, Secretary