

Big Rapids Community Library
Library Board Meeting

Agenda
October 14, 2021
Meeting held via Zoom

1. Call to Order

- The Library Board Meeting was called to order by Catherine Johnson at 5:31 pm.
- Board Members in attendance: Catherine Johnson, Chelsea Mitchell, and Beth Schoenlein.
- Board Members absent: Jennifer Njenga
- Library Staff in attendance: Lauren Moran (Library Director) and Sarah Welch (Head of Programs and Services).
- Public in attendance: Jessie Black, Mark Gifford (City Manager, City of Big Rapids), Aaron Kuhn (Treasurer, City of Big Rapids), Clare Membiela (Library Law Consultant, Library of Michigan), Sheryl Mase (Mid-Michigan Library League Director), Abigail Maskill, Paula Priebe (Community Development Director, City of Big Rapids), Kathy Webb (State Aid and Penal Fines Coordinator, Library of Michigan), and Eric Williams (Attorney, City of Big Rapids).

2. Reading and Approval of September 2021 Minutes

- The 2021 September Meeting Minutes were reviewed.
- Beth Schoenlein motioned to approve the September 2021 Meeting Minutes. Chelsea Mitchell supported. All members in favor. Minutes were approved.

3. Report of the Library Director

- FOTL canceled the Chicken BBQ fundraiser due to COVID concerns and lack of availability of pre-cooked chicken.
- Other Programs are modified due to high COVID transmission in Mecosta County. Emphasis on passive programs and outdoor programs when weather permits.
- Family Movie Night, Skeleton Scavenger Hunt, Bat Decorating Contest, Paranormal University, and the October 30th Fall Festival Events are scheduled in October.
- University of Michigan School of Information students are currently assessing the library room reservation system to make recommendations for improvement.
- Storywalk signage is in the process of being arranged and installed in the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park/Literacy Playground.

- The 2021-2022 Great Michigan Read is “The Women of Copper Country,” by Mary Doia Russell. The Library will collaborate with ArtWorks book discussion group Noveltea and Friends of the Library’s Mary’s Book Club to promote discussion of the book. We will also distribute free copies at the library.
- The grant of \$15,000 from the MI Humanities Council was received and will be utilized for humanities programming in the next year and supplementing staff costs.

4. Old Business

- none

5. New Business

- Township Contract and District Library Study Session with Clare Membiela - Library of Michigan Law Consultant
 - Service area contracts
 1. What is the goal of the contract? To get enough state aid or to make sure all municipalities are paying their share.
 - Becoming a district
 1. District Library Establishment Act
 2. Two or more municipalities get together and make an agreement/contract that they want a district library.
- State Aid/Penal Fines with Kathy Webb - Library of Michigan
 - State aid: ~\$1.00 per person if you meet your millage requirements (in total and as a group)

6. Public Comment

- Abigail Maskill - “It was interesting to consider all the different content.”

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for November 11th, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

7. Adjournment

- Catherine Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:35 pm.