

Big Rapids Community Library
Library Board Meeting

Agenda
April 8, 2021
Meeting held via Zoom

1. Call to Order

- The Library Board Meeting was called to order by Catherine Johnson at 5:32 pm.
- Board Members in Attendance: Catherine Johnson, Sharon Kuhn, Chelsea Mitchell, Jennifer Njenga and Beth Schoenlein.
- Library Staff in attendance: Lauren Moran (Library Director) and Sarah Welch (Head of Programs and Services).
- Public in attendance: Paula Priebe (Community Development Director)

2. Reading and Approval of March 2021 Minutes

- The March 2021 Meeting Minutes were reviewed. The report required a few technical corrections but no change to content.
- Beth Schoenlein motioned to approve the March Minutes. Chelsea Mitchell supported. All members in favor. Minutes were approved.

3. Report of the Library Director

- April is Poetry Month
- Poetry in the Park Project with votes for your favorite poem
- Poetry Scavenger Hunt on the first floor of the library
- April 29th: Poem in Your Pocket Day - stop by the library and pick up a poem to give to someone or to keep
- Shifting and weeding in Juvenile Nonfiction to improve access to larger format books has been completed.
- The Diane Turner Lentz Reading Nook has been finished.
- Programming Update from Sarah
 - Middle Grade Book Club will be reading *The Peak* by Roland Smith in June.
 - Next Special Reader is a firefighter from Public Safety
 - Morning's w/ Mr. Howard - Bunnies and Money (Money Smart Michigan), we are giving away books and financial literacy handouts.
 - May 7th: Astronomical Adventures - using the May Take & Make Kit
- Summer Reading Preview
 - The Library has received many donations from community businesses such as BR Nutrition, Red Fox Market, Cost Cutters, and Serendipity.

- BR Roller Rink is interested in hosting an end of summer reading party. We are still working out the details.
 - Kayla Brock and Sarah Welch are working with the three assisted living facilities to create a SRP geared towards their patrons. Residents will sign up for Homebound and we are hoping to have pop-up libraries in May, June, July, & August.
- Park Progress
 - Playground colors
 1. City Colors: blue, green & gold
 2. Library Colors: blue and green
 3. Paula Priebe attended the last Big Rapids City Commission meeting where they awarded the project to Steve Jones Construction. Engineers are working with them to finalize the timeline. The cost of the Park was a little over the original budget but the City of Big Rapids will put more money to offset the cost.
 - Potential grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund Behavioral Health.
 - Lauren is working on a community engagement grant in which she included the desire to build a conversation circle/fire circle in the library park.

4. Old Business

- Strategic Plan
 - Vision
 1. The Big Rapids Community Library aims to be the leading local resource for the community to discover, learn, and connect.
 - Mission
 1. Our mission is to encourage and inspire literacy by sharing resources and experiences that nurture curiosity, education, and growth to create a connected and thriving community.
 - Core Values
 1. Access, exploration, connection, intellectual freedom and service
 - Chelsea Mitchell motioned to approve the Mission Statement. Beth Schoenlein supported. All members in favor. The Mission Statement was approved.
 - Beth Schoenlein motioned to approve the Vision Statement. Jennifer Njenga supported. All members in favor. The Vision Statement was approved.
 - Beth Schoenlein motioned to approve the Core Values. Chelsea Mitchell supported. All members in favor. The Core Values were approved.
- Strategic Priorities

- Grow young readers, connect the community, curate meaningful educational experiences, and expand access to technology.
- Jennifer Njenga motions to approve the Strategic Priorities. Chelsea Mitchell supported. All members in favor. The Strategic Priorities were approved.
- Next time: have board members individually think of three goals that you would like the Library to achieve in a year or two.

5. New Business

- Catherine Johnson: MLA has put forth a new Library Privacy Policy. Should the board review this new policy if it passes?

6. Public Comment

- none

7. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

8. Adjournment

- Catherine Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.