

Big Rapids Community Library
Library Board Meeting

Agenda
March 11, 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, 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 January 2021 Minutes

- The January 2021 Meeting Minutes were reviewed. The report required a technical correction but no change to content.
- Jennifer Njenga motioned to approve the January Minutes. Chelsea Mitchell supported. All members in favor. Minutes were approved.

3. Report of the Library Director

- New Library hours: Monday through Friday, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturdays, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- A new Page was hired. Owen starts on Saturday.
- Dave Hamelund of Hamtech, LLC has agreed to fabricate a train that will be used to promote our 1,000 Books before Kindergarten Program.
- Reading Nook in memory of Diane Turner Lentz.
- Literacy Park Project moving forward as planned.
- Neighborhood Forest Program: free trees for children. Register online.
- Bookapalooza Grant materials have all been processed.
- Virtual Knit Night, first Thursday of the month.
- Goosechase Scavenger Hunt App
- Beanstack Summer Reading Website and App
- Take and Make kits remain wildly popular.
- Fitbit Kits, A-Z Early Lit Kits, Mornings with Mr. Howard, Special Reader Storytime, Middle Grade Book Club, and Summer Reading Program Update
- Update from Beth Schoenlein concerning the Little Free Libraries.
- New FOTL Facebook Page; please join.

4. Old Business

- Strategic Plan - Core Values, Mission, Vision

- Core Values: What do we value at the library?
 1. Access, exploration, community, intellectual freedom, and service.
- The Mission of the Big Rapids Community Library is to create a culture that values literacy by sharing our valuable resources to encourage curiosity, education, and growth in our community.
- Our Vision is to create a vital, empowered, and resilient community with increased quality of life for all.
 1. How would we increase the quality of life for all?
 2. We need a vision statement that reflects our Library specifically.
 3. A Vision Statement would be what the Library would look like if we fulfill our Mission Statement.
 4. Discuss the vision statement at the next meeting.
- Strategic priorities
 1. Grow young readers
 2. Connect the community
 3. Curate meaningful educational experiences
 4. Expand access to technology
- Three Pillars
 1. Early childhood literacy & education
 2. Community Connection
 3. Access to technology

5. New Business

- Reading Nook
 - Big Rapids High School's class of 1973 has donated towards the creation of the Reading Nook in memory of Diane Turner Lentz.
 - A memorial plaque was created by the family.
 - Should the Library place this plaque or, instead, choose something smaller.
 - The Library Board decided that a simple bronze plaque is a better fit for the Library.
- Cannabis Revenue
 - A local cannabis dispensary has shown interest in being a sponsor for the Library's Summer Reading Program.
 - Do they require visibility of their name on Summer Reading materials?
 - Limit to a donation, not a sponsorship.
 - Sarah Welch will contact the dispensary and to determine their interest and requirements.
- 2021-2022 Budget
 - Trying to get another full time position at the library.
 - Included is a breakdown of the book budget.

- Can anyone from the Library Board attend the City of Big Rapid's budget meeting to promote our needs?

6. Public Comment

- none

7. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

8. Adjournment

- Catherine Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:46 pm.