

Big Rapids Community Library
Library Board Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2021

- **Call to Order**
 - The Library Board Meeting was called to order by Catherine Johnson at 5:35pm.
 - Board Members in attendance: Catherine Johnson, Jennifer Njenga, and Beth Schoenlein, and Chelsea Mitchell.
 - Library Staff in attendance: Lauren Moran (Library Director)
 - Public in attendance: Paula Priebe
- **Reading and Approving of June Minutes**
 - The June 2021 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed, as there was no meeting in July or August.
 - Beth Schoenlein motioned to approve June Minutes. Jennifer Njenga supported. All members in favor. Minutes were approved.
- **Correspondence and Communication**
 - None
- **Library Director's Report**
 - September is Library Card Sign Up Month; We have two drawings for people either getting their first library card or replacing a lost card to win gift cards.
 - Summer Reading Numbers:
 - Total Sign Ups: **414**
 - Total Completed the Program: **157 ~38%**
 - Friends of the Library Chicken BBQ Fundraiser at the Sawmill Saloon on 9/25 from 4-8pm \$10
 - Grants to celebrate: A) \$15,000 from MI Humanities Council HOPE Grant: \$8,000 for humanities-based programming and \$7,000 to supplement health insurance costs for staff. B) Michigan Health Endowment Fund - Libraries as Mental Health Hubs: A two-year program aimed to implement evidence-based strategies in the library setting to improve mental health access and reduce stigma. Participating libraries will receive a stipend for participating in this project. The team will provide the funding for the costs related to the project. Some of the interventions we are proposing include providing a training for library staff on [Mental Health First Aid](#), bringing a social worker or care manager into the library setting to address social/behavioral issues with patrons, providing a tablet that patrons can check out for telehealth services, placing naloxone boxes in the library in case of overdose emergencies and setting up educational events within the library focused on mental health.
 - New Library Programs: Walking Club Tuesdays at 10am, Storytime MW at 10am, Caregiver Connections Fridays at 10am, Family Storytime Saturdays at 10am, etc.

- Library Park Construction – supply chain issues obtaining benches, garbage bins, lights, etc.
- Recent Staff Trainings: Kayla - Ready Reference Refresher, Lauren – Leadership Training, All Staff – Incident Reporting in Libraries
- **Old (Unfinished Business)**
- **New Business**
- Policy Regarding the Use of Volunteers revision. Discussed and will review final draft at next meeting.
- **Unscheduled Business**
- **Next Meeting**
 - Next meeting is scheduled for October 14th at 5:30pm.
- **Adjourned**
 - Catherine Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:02pm.