

Minutes of the Board of Trustees
William F. Laman Public Library
Via Zoom
January 13, 2021 @ 10:30 AM

The Board met via Zoom at 10:30 a.m. Ms. McLean called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Those present were Ms. Crystal Gates, Executive Director; Ms. Valerie McLean, President; Mr. Charley Baxter; Ms. Joyce Brewer; Ms. Esther Crawford; Ms. Kim Drake; Ms. Vicki Matthews; and Mr. Sonny Rhodes. Also present: Ms. Stacy Purdy and Mr. Richard Theilig. Motion Ms. Crawford, second Mr. Rhodes to excuse the absence of Ms. Brewer from the December 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously. There were no public comments.

Motion Mr. Baxter, second Mr. Rhodes to elect the same individuals to the same offices for 2021, those being Ms. McLean as President and Ms. Crawford as Vice-President. Motion carried unanimously. Per Bylaws, Ms. Gates serves as Secretary-Treasurer.

Motion Mr. Rhodes, second Ms. Crawford to approve the Minutes of December 14, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates reviewed the current financials. The Nathan Hamilton Estate was finalized, and the library received \$200,000.00 in late December, which were deposited into the Main account. Mr. Hamilton's Estate reached out back in 2019 to let us know that Mr. Hamilton had included the library in his Trust as one of his final beneficiaries. Those present noted that they were not familiar with Mr. Hamilton, and Ms. Matthews asked that Ms. Gates find more information about him and perhaps a copy of the Will. All considered whether to use the funds for a special project and how to acknowledge the gift. Motion Mr. Rhodes, second Mr. Baxter to approve the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates reviewed the Statistical Report and noted that adjustments to final numbers may be made as final totals come in from vendors and a review is done in preparation for the annual report to be sent to the State Library and IMLS. Ms. Drake noted a drop in teen programming, and Ms. Gates advised that Ms. Hicks is currently working with Teen Center staff on new ideas to reach teens during the ongoing pandemic. Motion Ms. Crawford, second Ms. Brewer to approve the Statistical Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates reviewed her Director's report, including her PTO balance and recent meetings. She noted that even with the recent staff reductions, she is not currently exploring new hires. Rather, she is utilizing the current staff and plans to continue to do so while the pandemic is ongoing or as long as possible. The e-rate program requires a time be provided for the public to address the filtering the library uses in according with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). There were no public comments.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.

Under board member comments, Mr. Baxter advised that Mayor Hartwick plans to address the plaza and fountain early in his term. Options include filling it in with dirt and have a small trickle fountain or fill it in and have an inclusive playground. Library staff would love to see the playground added and anticipate it would create opportunities to partner with Parks and offer family programming. Mr. Baxter also shared that Mayor Hartwick is meeting with various officials to develop a plan for a mass inoculation event, perhaps to be held at the arena or Burns Park.

With no further business to discuss, motion Mr. Rhodes, second Ms. Brewer to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Crystal Gates, Secretary