

Bement Public Library District Board Meeting
August 15, 2023

Board President Mary Postlewait called the meeting to order at 5:43 pm. Director Donna Techau and Board Trustees Bill Gallagher, Connie Kinsella, Jill Lawson, Gail LeFever Wright, and Kenneth Wright were present. Trustee Jerry Watzlawick was absent. No one from the public attended.

Gail LeFever Wright moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Kenneth Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

In old business, the Decennial Committee for Local Government Efficiency met on August 15, 2023, at 5:30 pm prior to the regular board meeting. The committee approved the final report to be submitted to the county clerk. This was the committee's final meeting for this cycle.

There is no action to take at this time regarding the Paid Leave for All Workers Act, as this is continuing to be studied.

With regard to the children's area of the library, final decisions are on hold until more information is gathered from the school district. The school reportedly does not currently have a full time librarian, and Director Techau was invited by IHLS to attend a training that was focused on school libraries. IHLS conveyed that the library may need to be more student-centered in light of the vacant school librarian position. The library is willing to collaborate with the school to assist in meeting students' needs. Director Techau will attempt to determine specifically how the library can help serve the school before making decisions about redesigning the children's area and purchasing new children's books.

Bill Gallagher made a motion, seconded by Jill Lawson, to approve the purchase of forward-facing, bin-style bookshelves for the children's area at an approximate cost of \$2000. All trustees voted aye by a roll call vote.

No action has been taken yet regarding a formal partnership with the Lions Club. Director Techau will attend their regular meeting in October.

Conxxus (high speed internet) conducted a site evaluation. Installation is forthcoming. Dawn Trimble was hired as the new custodian. Kathleen McCullough has started in her new position as Children's Program Coordinator. Director Techau and employee Bruce Nessel met with Tom Kinsella, local landscaper, to discuss ideas for a wildflower/butterfly garden on the north side of the building. This project will likely be undertaken in stages. First priority is the removal of a dead tree on the north side and a diseased tree on the south side of the building.

Kenneth Wright moved to approve the removal of two trees and their stumps and begin the garden project with installation of fencing around the air conditioner condensers not to exceed the amount of \$2500. Bill Gallagher seconded the motion and all trustees voted aye by a roll call vote.

In new business, Director Techau presented the board with job descriptions for Computer Clerk and Children's Program Coordinator. Connie Kinsella made a motion, seconded by Mary Postlewait, to approve the job descriptions as written. All trustees voted aye.

Connie Kinsella made a motion to approve the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 24-25 as presented. Lill Lawson seconded the motion. All trustees voted aye by a roll call vote.

At 6:44 pm, Bill Gallagher moved to adjourn the meeting. Gail LeFever Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

The next regular board meeting will be held on September 19, 2023 at 5:30 pm at the library.

Connie Kinsella, Board Secretary