

Bement Public Library District Board Meeting
September 19, 2023

Board President Mary Postlewait called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Director Donna Techau and Board Trustees Bill Gallagher, Connie Kinsella, Jill Lawson, Mary Postlewait, Jerry Watzlawick, Gail Wright, and Kenneth Wright were present. No one from the public attended.

Jerry Watzlawick made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jill Lawson seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

In old business, Director Techau provided a draft of the Paid Leave for All Workers Act policy. There will be at least one more committee review before it is finalized. Storage bins for the children's area have been purchased and will arrive toward the end of September. Director Techau will attend the October Lions Club meeting to discuss the creation of a formal partnership. The dying tree on the north side of the library was removed, and the installation of a fence around the A/C units and future butterfly garden will begin after CONXXUS has installed the new internet. The new children's programming director held a Barbie event, and there are more events in the works, along with a book club for adults. The 4th grade class at Bement Grade School is coming in twice a month for learning activities.

In new business, Director Techau reviewed the new Appropriations Ordinance. It reflects an increase of 2% over last year. Jerry Watzlawick made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Ordinance as presented. Bill Gallagher seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Director Techau and the board toured the library in order to consider options for a different layout that will allow her to have more visibility, create more space overall, and make the check-in desk more accessible for children. She invited board members to accompany her on a visit in October to other libraries to see alternate layouts in similarly constructed buildings.

There will be an IHLS Library Crawl in October, and the Bement Library is participating this year. The Library Crawl encourages people to visit other communities' libraries. Patrons can get a passport at the library and get it stamped at each library they visit.

Director Techau asked the board for feedback on placing a public trash receptacle outside the library. The board rejected the idea. After a board discussion, it was decided that Tuesday, December 26 would not be offered as a paid holiday. (Christmas is on a Monday this year, and the library is closed on Monday.) A new Trustee Training Portal from iLead will be available online this fall. Director Techau completed the mandated registration for the Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Program, which is an elective option available to all employees. Director Techau informed the board that she will be taking some vacation time this fall while friends from overseas are here to visit.

Connie Kinsella made a motion to cancel the regular October 17 board meeting and reschedule the November 21 meeting to November 14 at 6:00 pm. Jill Lawson seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

With no further business, Ken Wright made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. Jerry Watzlawick seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

The next board meeting will be November 14, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the library.

Connie Kinsella, Board Secretary