

Bement Public Library District Board Meeting  
January 18, 2022

Board President Mary Postlewait called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Director Donna Techau and Trustees Bill Gallagher, Connie Kinsella, Jill Lawson, Mary Postlewait, and Kenneth Wright were present. Trustees Erin Kindred and Jerry Watzlawick were absent.

Connie Kinsella made a motion, seconded by Ken Wright, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All trustees present voted aye.

In old business, Director Techau reported that the number of patrons walking into the library is up, while circulation is down. Patrons continue to use the computers, but that is down as well. This trend is also being seen by other local libraries. As things continue toward all digital, the library will need to continue to move toward offering a wider range of services and programs for the public to keep up with the times. Surveillance cameras were installed and the board toured the library to see where they are posted and to view the monitor. All trustees present were pleased with the installation. The addition of electrical outlets approved at the previous board meeting remains on the list of things to complete.

Starting in February, the library will be offering children's story hour on Thursday mornings from 10am to 12pm for preschool age children. Library Clerk Linda Hammond will be facilitating this program. Board trustees expressed appreciation to Linda for her interest.

Director evaluation forms were passed out to board trustees at the last board meeting. Board Secretary Connie Kinsella collected all the completed evaluations and will compile them into one document.

Director Techau presented her proposal for annual employee salary increases. Jill Lawson made a motion, seconded by Bill Gallagher, to approve the proposal as presented, with modifications to round up hourly wages ending in \$.96 to the next dollar amount, to round up the Director's hourly wage to the next dollar amount and provide a \$1200.00 merit bonus, and to increase Linda Hammond's wage by \$2.03 per hour. All trustees present voted aye by a roll call vote.

In new business, board trustees were informed that Statements of Economic Interests will need to be completed soon and there have been some changes to the forms that they should anticipate. Champaign County now has an online option for SEI's, but Piatt County is going to continue with paper forms. The library will host a 4th vaccination clinic on February 23rd. The Bement Community Council is making Valentine's Bags for seniors and asked the library to contribute items. The Board expressed approval to participate. In April, there will be a "Meet the Artist" event. Ideas for how to use the new logo are being considered. Director Techau sought the board's opinion on the genealogical collection. It takes up a lot of space and needs to be archived properly. Trustee Bill Gallagher offered to contact someone from the Piatt County

Historical Society to determine if they would be interested in acquiring it. The University of Illinois Extension is going to start displays in the library, approximately six per year.

At 7:02 pm, Ken Wright moved to adjourn, and Bill Gallagher seconded the motion. All trustees present voted aye. The next regular board meeting will be held on February 15, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the library.

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Connie Kinsella, Board Secretary