

Bozeman Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
April 10, 2024
4 pm in the Library Board Room
Minutes

Attendance Trustees Stewart Mohr, Pam Henley, Jennifer Pawlak, Ken Spencer, Mike Redburn; Bozeman Public Library (BPL) Director Susan Gregory; Assistant Library Director Kit Stephenson; Administrative Assistant Lauranna Cossins, Department Heads Corey Sloan & Sarah Widger, City Commissioner Jennifer Madgic, Library Foundation Director Janay Johnson, Friends of the Bozeman Public Library representative Brittany Eilers

Call to Order Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Stewart Mohr at 4 pm.

Public Comment – No Public Comment

Approval of the Minutes

Action Trustee Pawlak moved to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2024, meeting. Trustee Redburn seconded. There was no further discussion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Action/ Discussion

Eastside Easement update

Gregory stated that City Community Development Department staff and City Attorney Greg Sullivan are working with representatives of the property owner on a document regarding a continuation of the property owner's historical use of a small strip of land that abuts the northeast corner of Library property for the property owner's drive setback. This is not an arrangement to increase use of Library property but to update the historical use. The current property owner purchased the former antique/junk shop that faces Main Street and will continue to need the easement in order to access the rear of his building. Gregory will bring completed documents for the Board's review and approval at a future Library Board meeting.

Action: no action taken, just discussion and update provided.

Correspondence

Highlights

"You guys are great! Thank you.

My brother really likes drawing and Pokémon and we kept looking for Pokémon drawing books and found nothing.

Maybe try to keep adults out of the teen corner.

Please enforce "Quiet" Don't people realize they are in a Library. This is w/out a doubt the loudest I have ever been in!!!

Start the sunflower lanyard for invisible disabilities.

Please figure out a way to dim your new Hula-hoop lights! They are too bright for daytime comfort! I have to squint to walk thru the hallway! Ugh! Thank you.

It seems to me that there should be more guidelines for how the homeless use the Library, which is for the purpose of looking for a book, reading a book or working at a computer- not sleeping. I brought my granddaughter to the Library today and two homeless men are crashed- one on a chair and one taking up a whole couch. I know this is a sensitive issue, but why can't the use of the Library be limited to the purposes said and clearly not for sleeping, which is a slippery slope. Thanks."

Reports

Director's report - - Director Gregory provided her report to the Library Board prior to the meeting. Highlights were reviewed.

Library security provided on weekends continues to make the Library a safe place for patrons and staff. Weekend Library staff have told Director Gregory that they feel much more secure and appreciate the support. The Library is working with Invictus Security to bring one of their officers to the Library on weekend afternoons. Security presence has meant an immediate drop in disruptive incidents that staff have had to handle in the past. We continue to work with the Bozeman Police Department (BPD) regularly and they have been incredibly helpful to us for years. Library administration made the decision to hire officers from Invictus Security on a temporary basis until the Bozeman Police Department has more officers and is able to be in the Library on a more frequent basis.

Department Heads' Highlights – Department reports were provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

City Commission Library Liaison - City Commissioner Jennifer Madgic shared that Commissioner Coburn has resigned. The appointment process to fill Coburn's position is open until May 30th and a new City Commissioner will be appointed at the June 4th Commission meeting.

Library Foundation- Foundation Director Johnson stated that the Library Foundation Board has committed to be more involved with public library advocacy on a city, state, and national level. The Foundation is planning to start a "Library Ambassador" program that will consist of three or four sessions with Library staff members and give Foundation Board members and donors the opportunity to learn about both the Bozeman Public Library and issues facing libraries all across

the country, such as book challenges. The Foundation is committed to supporting the Freedom to Read Freely.

Friends of the Bozeman Public Library (FOL) - Friends Vice-President Brittany Eilers reminded those present of the Friends' Used Book sale this weekend in the Library's Community Room. Book Donation Drop-off events are also planned for May 11th, June 8th, and July 13th, 2024 at the Library. FOL volunteers will unload donations from vehicles and sort them by type for storage until the next sale.

Next Board Meeting: May 15th at 4pm in the Library Cottonwood Room.