

VPL Board Meeting Minutes
Library Board of Trustees-Verona Public Library
500 Silent Street Verona, WI 53593

Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
Virtual Board Meeting

Virtual Participants: Conwell, Huemmer, Sohail, Ryan, Hopp, Cronin, Burkart
Absent: Kurth

Call to order:

Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Huemmer, seconded by Ryan to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 01/06/2021. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Invoices:

A motion was made by Conwell, seconded by Huemmer to approve the January 2021 invoices. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

None

City Council Liaison Report:

Cronin reported that the City Council approved the amendment to Expanded Family Medical leave and Emergency Paid Sick Leave policies related to COVID-19 for general employees and extended the leave benefits covered under these policies until June 1, 2021. This may result in part-time library staff getting some leave hours benefits. Cronin further reported that city clerk Ellen Clark is retiring in March and deputy clerk Kayla Martin will step up and fill this position for the time being.

Library Director's Report:

Burkart updated the board that the library staff may be eligible under category 1(b) to get the COVID vaccine starting March 1st and she has filled the application for the organization on PHMDC recommendation. She also reported that the Winter Library Challenge winners were presented their gifts last month. She further added that the New Year's virtual party was a successful online event with great participation from the community.

Old Business:

1. ***Discussion and possible action regarding library response to COVID-19 and metrics needed to reopen the library:*** Conwell shared and elaborated the data snapshot of COVID-19 from PHMDC showing a significant decrease in the cases in Dane County. She highlighted that the number of cases in Verona, even though decreasing, yet is twice as high as the rest of the county. Burkart reported that there has been comments and questions received from the community regarding reopening of the library. Burkart shared a document with some ideas on how to safely reopen the library for the public. The ideas included limited hours of operation, self-service browsing, express library services and mask mandate with the option of offering curbside pickup for the visitors. The board discussed the problem of restrictive contact tracing among the library visitors. The board further discussed the possibility of assigning the time slots for the visitors and computer appointments, larger browsing area without seating and no to little overlap between express library hours and curbside pickup hours.

New Business:

1. ***Discussion and possible action regarding the 2020 DPI State of Wisconsin Library Annual Report:*** Burkart presented the 2020 DPI State of Wisconsin Library Annual Report. A motion was made by Sohail, seconded by Huemmer to approve the 2020 DPI State of Wisconsin Library Annual Report. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Library board approved March 3, 2021