**Big Rapids Community Library**

**Library Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 10, 2019**

The Library Board meeting was called to order by M. Emerson at 5:30 PM.

In attendance: Mae Emerson, Catherine Johnson, Sharon Kuhn, Beth Schoenlein, Chris Cook (Assistant Director), and Lauren Moran (Director).

Absent: Alma Wortley

Other Attendees: Paula Priebe and Lynn Anderson

**Meeting Minutes**

The November Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. There was a correction needed to show that Mae Emerson was in attendance; she arrived after meeting had started. Motion to approve, as corrected, made by C. Johnson and B. Schoenlein seconded it. Approved as corrected.

**Correspondence and Communication** – None.

**Public Comment** – Paula Priebe introduced herself as the Director of Neighborhood Services with part of her job to act as liaison between the City and the Library.

**Financial Report and Approval of Expenditures-**

*December 2018 Revenue and Expenditure Reports – City*. These reports were reviewed by the Board and a motion was made by S. Kuhn and seconded by C. Johnson to accept them.

**Circulation and General Statistics**

The circulation and general statistics were reviewed for the month of December, 2018. The report will be placed in the file.

**Director’s Report (Lauren Moran)**

The mission of the Big Rapids Community Library is to provide quality information and assure equal access to all materials using appropriate technologies. The Big Rapids Community Library staff is working together to accomplish the library's mission.

Provide Quality Information:

* Weeding outdated/problematic information in the nonfiction collections.
* Chris teaching computer classes and one-on-one computer help.
* Merchandising the collection to highlight and provide easy access to new material and seasonal themes.

Assure equal access to all Materials Using Appropriate Technologies

* Implemented Kanopy for increased access to streaming films and supplementing our DVD collection.
* Expanding social media presence and marketing with Twitter Account: **@BRCLibrary**

Other Projects Include:

-Capital Improvements submitted for 2019-2025: Replacing existing lighting with LED saves approx. $300 per month in electricity. Replace the HVAC system.

-Receiving the $500 grant for Libraries Ready to Code by Jan. 31st.

-Preparing materials for the seed library.

-Cleaned and polished the community room flooring.

-Completing State Aid Report.

-Fundraised $400 from the Solstice Social

-Gordon Mallett completed two art pieces in the Children’s Room: The Alphabet and a Height Chart.

Current Events:

* Knit Night 1st and 3rd Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm
* Story Time Mondays and Wednesdays @ 10:30 am
* Tiny Tot Tinker Lab Fridays @ 10:30 am
* Computer Classes​​
* 1/10: Big Rapids Camera Club 1/10​​
* [1/15 @ 6pm:](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/19e2e3_fd9422aa113c4c42b26629bf46fbb3ec.pdf) Going Global Book Club: *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright
* [1/17 @ 5:30pm - YA is Lit! Book Club](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/19e2e3_f09f497afcc94830a868f6aed0b2b885.pdf): *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman
* [1/18 @ Noon - Mary's Book Club](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/19e2e3_28ef5a06a2e34ee18b6a691bba2da79f.pdf): *La Rose* by Louise Erdrich
* 1/21 - Library Closed: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
* 1/23 @ 6:30pm - Annual Friends of the Library Meeting @ City Hall
* 1/26 @ 9am: Open Sew
* [1/31 @ - True Story! Book Club](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/19e2e3_1e0e6cad75594ee99454af021c0ae057.pdf): *Her Mother’s Laugh: The Powers, Perversions, and Potential of Heredity* by Carl Zimmer

Upcoming Events

2/1: World Read Aloud Day – Interior Story Walk. Pop Up Read Aloud.

Festival of the Arts Comic Workshops on Tuesdays in February 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

March: Birdwatching vs. Birding with Greg Bodker

April: Biking Cross Country with Robert Downes

**Old (unfinished) Business**

1. Officers and Terms for the Board of Trustees. After some discussion, C. Johnson moved to keep the officers on the Library Board the same for another year. Motion seconded by S. Kuhn; motion passed.
2. Library Literacy Playground. Lauren talked about the connection of early literacy skills and the development of the playground. Paula told the board that the City’s Master Plan is being revised. Included in this is the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park (park next to library). The City is applying for a grant under the DNR Recreation Passport Project, which must be submitted by April 1. The City has already set aside $50,000 for work on the playground/park and the proposed grant they are seeking is $150,000. Mentioned that obviously there will be more fundraising needed to complete the park and we’ll know more after the grant process is completed as well.
3. Exterior Mural. Lauren wants to get murals painted on the shuttered windows that face the park. One idea is to have Gordon Mallett work on ideas that focus on the early literacy themes (Sing, Play, Talk, Read, Write).

**New Business**

1. Updated contact information for board members needed. All members wrote down their address, phone number and email so Lauren has the correct and accurate information for everyone.
2. Fundraising efforts and advocacy – Lauren wanted to know what had been done. The Board said there has been nothing that they have spearheaded in the past.
3. Mary Ryan picture. Board was informed that the Friends of the Library provided a framed color picture of Mary Ryan and some youngsters that is now hanging in the Children’s Room.
4. Mission Statement and Strategic Plan. Lauren said that she wanted to work on drafting a new mission statement and to work on a strategic plan to bring before the Board.
5. Letters of support for library literacy playground. Lauren mentioned that at some point the Board and other supporters may need to provide and help collect/solicit such letters to present to the City, if/when needed.

**Unscheduled Business** -- None.

Next meeting scheduled for March 14, 2019, 5:30 PM.

M. Emerson adjourned the meeting at 6:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Cook, Assistant Library Director