

**MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

1. At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Monroe County Library System held on January 13, 2021 held virtually using Zoom teleconference, the meeting was called to order by Chair Smith at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Grodi declared that a quorum was present.

Present: Bernie Smith, Monroe County, Michigan, Chair; Catharine Calder, Monroe County, Michigan, Vice-Chair; Mike Grodi, Monroe County, Michigan, Secretary; Beth LaPensee, Monroe County, Michigan, Trustee; Rob Peven, Monroe County, Michigan, Trustee; and Nancy Bellaire, Director

Staff: Lou Komorowski; Barbra Krueger; Liz Pifer; Marsha Langenderfer; Diana Martel; Jodi Russ; Mary Vergowven; David Ross; Beth Sheets; Jennifer Grudnoski

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

2. Motion by Cathe Calder, supported by Beth LaPensee, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Beth LaPensee, supported by Cathe Calder, to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment
Outreach Manager Barbra Krueger welcomed Trustee Peven to the board and said that he is joining a great group of dedicated individuals. She updated the board on literacy initiatives such as Seek, Spy, and Read on by as well as the Storywalk project, and a partnership with the Great Start Collaborative to collect and distribute donated books to children in 5 literacy deserts located within Monroe County. We are also been asked to share our start up practices with ProMedica's Ronald McDonald's Mobile Care Unit. Bedford Community Librarian Jodi Russ thanked the board for their support during the pandemic and shared information about their Seed Library.
5. Board of Trustees Reorganization
Motion by Cathe Calder, supported by Mike Grodi, to nominate Bernie Smith as Chair. Motion by Cathe Calder, supported by Mike Grodi, to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Bernie Smith as Chair. Motion carried.
Motion by Mike Grodi, supported by Beth LaPensee, to nominate Cathe Calder as Vice-Chair. Motion by Mike Grodi, supported by Beth LaPensee, to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Cathe Calder for Vice-Chair. Motion carried.

Motion by Cathe Calder to nominate Mike Grodi for Secretary, supported by Beth LaPensee. Ms. Calder moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mike Grodi as secretary. Supported by Beth LaPensee. Motion carried.
Chair Smith will announce committee assignments at the next meeting.

6. Consent Agenda – Motion by Cathe Calder, supported by Mike Grodi, to accept the items on the consent agenda as presented, and place on file. Motion carried.
7. Committee Reports
 - Finance Committee** – Nancy Bellaire reported that year-end financial reports for 2020 are not yet ready.
 - Facilities Committee** – No meeting.
 - Policy and Personnel Committee** – No meeting.
 - Technology Committee** – No meeting.
 - Woodlands Update** – Beth LaPensee reported that the next Woodlands Governing Board meeting will be next week.
 - Legislative Update** – Nancy Bellaire updated the board on the Library Privacy Law update. Draft policy language will be forthcoming from the Library of Michigan.
8. Unfinished Business –
9. New Business - Motion by Mike Grodi, supported by Beth LaPensee, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending November 30, 2020 in the amount of \$233,132.87. Motion carried.
Motion by Cathe Calder, supported by Mike Grodi to accept the proposal from Cooley Hehl Sabo & Calkins at a cost of 12,670. Motion carried.
Motion by Beth LaPensee, supported by Cathe Calder to approve allowing fund carryover for staff for Flexible Spending Accounts (YTD contributions minus YTD funds used for 2020 and 2021 as well as allowing employees no longer employed to use their Flexible Spending amount contributed prior to separation. Motion carried
10. Nancy Bellaire updated the board on the revisions to the Library Privacy Act and showed the board photos of the new paper recycling bin located in the Ellis parking lot, as well as insect damage at the Dorsch Branch and bubbles in the Technology Department flooring. She also announced that the Implicit Bias staff training session has been postponed at the request of the presenter.
11. Board comments – The board welcomed Rob to the board. Beth LaPensee said that she was happy to see everyone including staff participating via Zoom. Cathe Calder said that she was glad to hear that the Big Gig and other Blues programming was going to take place as it helps create a sense of community. Rob Peven thanked the board for the warm welcome and said that he was happy to be appointed to the board of one of the greatest assets in Monroe County.

13. Announcements

Date of Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, March 10, @ 5 p.m. at the Mary K. Daume Library Service Center, 840 S. Roessler St., Monroe, Michigan.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Mike Grodi, supported by Cathe Calder to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Grodi, Secretary

Bernie Smith, Chair