



**Board of Directors Meeting  
February 19, 2020 7:00PM  
System Headquarters  
MINUTES**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of Berks County Public Libraries was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at System Headquarters.

**Board Members Present:** Charles Jones - President, Eve Kimball - Vice President, Mary Edwards - Treasurer, Debbie Noel - Secretary, Ginny Hand, Chris Daubert

**Board Members Absent:** Peter Schuchman

**System staff present:** Amy Resh, Library System Administrator; Alison Trautmann, Outreach Coordinator; Stephanie Williams, District Consultant; Marissa Guidara, District Library Youth Services Consultant

**Advisory Committee members present:**

Mike Najarian, Bethel-Tulpehocken  
Mary Picariello and Steph Woomeer,  
Boone  
Charles Wohl, Boyertown  
Lois DeMatteo Brandywine  
Denise Darrah, Exeter  
Lois Geist, Fleetwood  
Mindy Wagaman, Kutztown  
Karen Cook, Mifflin  
Dr. Joseph Yarworth, Muhlenberg  
Paul Hoh, Reading

Mindy Cohen and Laura Yazemboski,  
Robesonia  
Ben Robitzer, Sinking Spring  
Donna Bird, Andrea Dillaway-Huber,  
John Emerick, and Jennifer Yetter,  
Spring Twp.; West Lawn  
Lisa Betz, Village  
Kristi Brant, Wernersville  
Trista Oxenreider, Womelsdorf

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Call to Order:** Charles Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Welcome and Introductions:** Advisory Committee members introduced themselves and were welcomed along with visitors

**2020 BCPL Board Officers** presented by Charles Jones as provided by Peter Schuchman and Nominating Committee

President - Mary Edwards  
Vice President - Dr. Eve Kimball  
Secretary/Treasurer - Dr. Debbie Noel

Eve Kimball moved to close the nomination. Chris Daubert seconded the motion. The nominations were closed by unanimous vote.

Ginny Hand made a motion to accept the nominations. Mary Edwards seconded the motion. The 2020 officers were elected by unanimous vote.

**Passing of the gavel:** President Mary Edwards resumed the meeting

**Public Comment:**

The following people all expressed their disagreement with the BCPL Advisory Board's recommendation to change in the funding formula for 2021: Carol Gardecki, Jonathan Duffy, Sharon Pino, Kris Fedeli, Brittany Kline, Robert Dudash, Meghan Golden, and Paul Hoh.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ginny Hand made a motion to accept the minutes, of November 20, 2019. Eve Kimball seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Debbie Noel reported that it is early in the year; nothing extraordinary has impacted spending. Eve Kimball brought to our attention a typographical error in the State Aid portion of the Budget. The differences should not show totals in the negative. Also, she noted the total of the Year to Date in the County budget report needs to be recalculated as it is incorrect. Chris Daubert moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted with the noted corrections. Eve Kimball seconded the motion. The report was unanimously accepted.

**Correspondence:**

The Board received inquiries in regard to the Spring/West Lawn libraries

From the Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL): we received a letter from Glenn Miller, Deputy Secretary of OCL, the 2020 coordination aid plan for improved library services to Berks County was approved by their office.

**Administrator's Report:** Amy Resh shared her full report with the Board and Advisory Committee members (see attached detailed report).

The question was posed to Amy as to whether the Library System had considered have more than one training day. Amy explained that they had not due, primarily, to the expense. The cost for the one day will be in excess of \$2000; the Friends of BCPL is generously providing the funding for this event. She discussed additional opportunities for staff development throughout the year.

The staff development on March 27 will consist of 6 hours of training. The sessions throughout the day will focus on providing service to problem patrons, and training on Polaris Leap. Staff from the Berks County Office of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities (MH/DD) will provide a short workshop on QPR (question, persuade, refer) techniques for staff when confronted with a patron in need of mental health supports.

**Committee Reports:** No Reports made

**Old Business:** None

**New Business :** None

**District Center Update:** Paul Hoh passed out a very detailed report from the library's Executive Director, Bronwen Gamble (see attached document). Mr. Hoh spoke of the new meeting room at the main Reading library. The room is state of the art and available for individuals or groups to utilize.

**Announcements**

Stephanie Williams, district consultant, mentioned that the directors of each library are busy working on their annual reports that are due March 6, 2020. Board Chairs and Treasurers must sign the reports prior to submission. The committee will meet next week, on February 27 to address the 2020-2021 fiscal district aid budget. Also, a trustee orientation will be held next month; this was included in the e-newsletter.

**Adjournment:** Charles Jones moved for adjournment. Eve Kimball seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Noel  
Secretary, BCPL Board

***Next Meeting: May 20, 2020 7:00 PM  
System Headquarters: 1040 Berks Road, Leesport PA 19533***