

Berks County Public Libraries Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2015 7:00 p.m.

System Headquarters

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Berks County Public Libraries was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on November 18, 2015 at System Headquarters by President Kim Stahler.

Board Members Present: Kim Stahler, President, Mary Edwards, Vice President and Acting Treasurer, Judy Schwambach, Andrew George, and Charles Jones

Board Members Absent: Tina DeLong

System Staff Present: Denise Sticha, Administrator

Advisory Committee Members Present:

Kelli Burgos, Bernville

Mike Najarian, Bethel-Tulpehocken

Wanda Druzba, Boone

Marie Ballantyne, Brandywine

Chuck Waterbury, Exeter

Dan Stafford, Fleetwood

Karen Fister, Hamburg

Amber Bungo, Kutztown

Marilyn Eaken, Mifflin

Linda Roebuck, Muhlenberg

Paul Hoh, Reading

Kevin Kurtz, Robesonia

James Dailey, Schuylkill Valley

John Emmerick, Spring

Mary Young, Wernersville

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the September 16, 2015 Board meeting were approved.

No Correspondence

Treasurer's Report

BCPL staff currently reviewing year-end balance projections and 2016 proposed budget.

We are waiting for approval from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries regarding our request to carry over some of our 2015 County Coordination aid for website development. Our 2016 County Coordination Aid plan was submitted.

All member libraries submitted Applications for State Aid. In absence of a state budget, there has been no information about when the Plans for Use of State Aid will be due.

Denise and Frank Kasprovicz are working to develop a revised contract between RPL and BCPL for 2015 Network expenses.

Administrators Report:

The Polaris Users Group is continuing to meet monthly. Revised Borrowers' policies has been drafted and recommended for Board approval.

Glenn, Miller, the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Library Association has been named the Deputy Secretary for Education, Commissioner of Libraries.

At the annual PaLA Conference, Sticha was elected President of the Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries for a two year term.

Committee Reports:

Advocacy Committee – Committee Chair, Judy Schwambach presented the finished copy of our Advocacy Toolkit and thanked everyone who worked on the project. A very successful workshop featuring library/community engagement consultant, Sara Jane Lowry was held in October with about 50 people in attendance.

Finance Committee – Committee Chair Mary Edwards gave a recap of the Committee’s ongoing discussion about the revising the funding distribution formula.

Unfinished Business:

Annual Awards – the annual awards presentation will be held at the Boone Area Library on Wednesday, December 16th. Over 20 nominations were submitted and the Board met to determine the award winners.

Board Recruitment – Peter Schuchman will be appointed at tomorrow’s Commissioners meeting replacing John Smith. Recruitment continues to replace outgoing Board members, Kim Stahler, Andy George and Tina DeLong.

New Business:

The Board approved the meeting schedule for 2016: January 20th, March 16, May 20th, August 17th, September 21 and November 16th.

The Board approved the recommended borrower policy changes pending final review by Andy George.

A letter was received from the Schuylkill Valley Library Board requesting a change in the Uniform Requirements regarding mandatory continuing education for board members. The BCPL Board asked Sticha to follow up with other peer organizations and with our library directors to gather feedback and perspective.

District Center Update:

Paul Hoh announced that Reading Public Library Director, Frank Kasprovicz is retiring sometime in January 2016.

Next meeting will be on January 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

System Headquarters: 1040 Berks Road, Leesport, PA 19533

**Respectfully submitted by
Denise Sticha, System Administrator**