

Shelbyville Bedford County Public Library Board August 22nd Meeting, 2023

Board Members present: Ralph McBride, Mary Gore, Ronette Tillman, Jennifer Templeton, Shay Maupin, Yesenia Lira-Garcia, John Boutwell and Mark McGee. Also present: Margaret Petty – interim Library Director, Kate Huddleston - Regional Director and Cynthia Matthews – Assistant Director. Not present: Mary Pitner.

Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm with a total of eight (8) members. Ralph McBride, Chair, welcomed new Board Member, Mark McGee, and appointed him to the Community Relations Committee.

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board

Lis Ann Grenier wanted to address the Board regarding her checks being suspended until further notice. Lis Ann stated she was unaware of the policy against using sick leave and vacation time at the end of employment and wanted to make it clear this was not something she was trying to “slide under the radar”. She stated she felt this was hurtful, disrespectful, inappropriate, and unnecessary after serving the library for 9 years. She is requesting that she is paid for her comp time as that is the time, she physically worked. She said that was done to make sure the transition between directors went smoothly. She reiterated several times that she wasn’t notified that the suspension was taking place and felt that should have been communicated. She closed her remarks with hoping this situation can turn positive and wishing SBCPL and Bedford County success.

Approval of Minutes

Jennifer Templeton made the motion to approve August’s minutes and Ronette Tillman seconded. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

Ronette Tillman made the motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Jennifer Templeton seconded the motion. All approved.

Regional Libraries’ Report

Kate Huddleston went over the Regional Library Report which included the 2023-2024 Training Calendar. A link to sign up for the 2023 Trustee Workshop was distributed. If, at least, one person from the Board does not attend, the library will lose 20% of the next Technology Grant award. John Boutwell plans to attend and represent the Library.

Old Business

We continue to wait for the City to make their choice on who will serve on their behalf. Matt Rueff be unable to serve on the Board due to conflicting schedules. It was mentioned that Dr. Gerald Martin may be interested in serving on the Board. The consensus was to submit his name to the City for appointment for next month's meeting.

New Business

The Board felt it was appropriate to address and vote on Lis Ann's remaining payments. In the employee handbook, it states that vacation and sick leave are not to be paid out when someone is no longer employed with the library. On July 12th, she was paid for the last week of June (25th) through the first week of July (8th). On July 26th, she received a paycheck for July 9th through July 22nd. Her last day with SBCPL was July 14th. The remaining payments to her would include her vacation, sick leave, or comp time.

Ralph McBride asked for a motion to deny Lis Ann compensation for unused sick time and to send those hours to TCRS (Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System). Jennifer Templeton made the motion to approve and Ronette Tillman seconded. All approved unanimously.

Ralph McBride asked for a motion to deny Lis Ann compensation for unused vacation time. Jennifer Templeton approved the motion. Ronette Tillman seconded. All were in favor.

Ronette Tillman and Mark McGee approved and seconded, respectively, after Ralph McBride asked for a motion to defer consideration for the comp time issue to the September meeting. All approved unanimously.

Ralph McBride asked for a motion to ask Margaret Petty to provide a report on comp time paid to salaried employees in the past. John Boutwell approved. Ronette Tillman seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

Ralph McBride stated he would contact Lis Ann and let her know that the upcoming check would also be held until further notice.

John Boutwell moved to approve the policy for Public Comments in Meetings. Mark McGee seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Friends of the Library

No report.

Personnel Committee

John Boutwell received 3 resumes for the Library Director position. It was decided to wait on scheduling interviews until the ad is posted in the newspaper.

Community Relations

Mark McGee will hold the Community Relations seat.

Property Committee

No report.

Librarian's Report

Margaret Petty stated that Peyton Hastings, who was hired for the Library Assistant I position, regretfully decided that he will not be able to pursue working at the library. Nathan Fouyer, has been volunteering at the Library for over a year, has accepted the position and will start tomorrow (August 23rd).

For the last several years, the library has been making payments to AT&T for several tablets. Those tablets cannot be accounted for and have not been activated. AT&T canceled that bundle and Margaret has requested to be reimbursed 2 years of those charges. That total came to \$1,637 dollars.

Ricky Rutledge, who frequents the library, continues to be unruly and makes patrons nervous while they're visiting. After contacting the police several times, they have recommended Margaret to sign a 'No Trespassing' warrant on him. Even though the library is a public entity, action can be taken as he is causing disturbance to others. He recently attempted to provoke a fight with a lawn maintenance employee. Kate Huddleston advised Margaret Petty not to sign a warrant but that the Board has the authority to ban a disruptive person from the property for 30 days. Ralph requested a motion to ban Ricky Rutledge from the premises, both exterior and interior. John Boutwell approved the motion and Jennifer Templeton seconded.

The Board also discussed table arrangements and tickets for the Annual Friends of the Library Luncheon that is scheduled for October 10th at 12pm.

Jennifer Templeton made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:18pm.

Shay Maupin | Treasurer/Secretary