

**Bozeman Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**  
**Bozeman Public Library—Board Room**  
**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**Minutes**

**Attendance** Board Chair Judy Mathre; Trustees John Gallagher, Jennifer Pawlak, Ken Spencer; Bozeman Public Library (BPL) Director Susan Gregory; BPL Department Heads Mary Jo Stanislaw, Jason Greenwald, Lois Dissly; Administrative Assistant Lauranna Cossins; Bozeman Public Library Foundation Director Janay Johnson, City Attorney Greg Sullivan, City Manager Andrea Surratt.

**Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Mathre at 4:01pm.

**Approval of the Minutes** Trustee Pawlak moved to approve the minutes from the November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting. Trustee Gallagher seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

**Meeting Room Policy Update** Susan Gregory reported that there have been security issues in the Library lobby. The Library has allowed the meeting rooms in the lobby to stay occupied after the Library closes, but it means that patrons using the rooms must deal with anyone who is lingering in the lobby after hours and usher them out when they leave. Gregory and Library staff are proposing that the meeting rooms close at the same time as the Library. Greg Sullivan emphasized the exposure for property damage when the public is allowed in the Library with no staff present. Gregory also noted that there have been several requests lately for the Library to extend its hours, and she said that BPL will talk to the City about the possibility of changing the closing time on Monday through Thursday evenings from 8pm to 9pm in the future.

In the meantime, meeting room reservations already on the books would be allowed to abide by the old policy, and new reservations starting today would be scheduled to end by 8:15pm. Trustee Pawlak suggested having two staff stay until 9pm during the phase out period until the earlier end time goes into effect. Gregory and Lois Dissly agreed this was possible. The Board discussed insurance coverage for artwork in the lobby, and what additional staffing would be needed in order to be open until 9pm four days a week.

**Action** Trustee Gallagher moved to approve the amended meeting room policy. Trustee Pawlak seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve the amended meeting room policy.

**Correspondence** Susan Gregory shared correspondence from the community. A patron had an idea for an art project involving old books. Another patron requested use of the Library front lawn to sell food to raise money for the Chord Rustlers during the Sweet Pea festival. The Board discussed the matter, and emphasized that the only commercial activities allowed on Library property are Friends or Foundation activities where the funds raised benefit the Library. The Board stands by this policy. A patron reported having to leave the newspaper area due to the arrival of transients that smelled bad. The Board discussed the various community organizations (Warming Center, Mental Health Center, Greater Gallatin Homeless Action Coalition) who are trying to address the issue of showers and laundry facilities for those who need them. Gregory said that there is no single place in Bozeman to both take a shower and do laundry. She said the

Salvation Army is looking for property to build a larger facility which might address this issue. In the meantime, people have to shower in one location and do laundry in another.

**Director and Staff Reports** Susan Gregory spoke about a project to create a door to the lobby from the small room inside the Community Room to allow people to use the small room without disturbing programs in the Community Room. The quote for this project is \$18,000. The Library is talking about making this area a space where community organizations (e.g. the HRDC, the police) could do outreach. Janay Johnson suggested meeting with organizations who would want to use the space and writing a grant with them to cover construction costs.

Lois Dissly reported that the Information Desk staff put on an event to get to know homeless patrons. They called the event Coffee and Conversations and held it in the small meeting room before the Library opened. They did not advertise that the event was for homeless patrons but tried to make everyone feel welcome.

Jason Greenwald reported that the annual staff holiday party took place at Bozeman Bowl this year. There will be a demo for the Library's new 3D printer on December 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-6:00. For the past two weeks, Greenwald has hosted the Hour of Code event for kids as part of Computer Science Education Week. 62 kids signed up. There is also an Hour of Code Event for adults on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Greenwald talked about two new digital services: the New York Times online, which patrons can now access for free in and outside the Library (patrons can go to the BPL website and click a link which will give them a 72-hour pass to nytimes.com), and Lynda.com, an online learning site providing courses in digital technologies and a wide range of professional skills. Greenwald said that the Foundation raised enough money for a 2-year subscription to Lynda, and that the Library's subscription allows 35 patrons to be logged in simultaneously to the site.

**Foundation Report** Janay Johnson reported that she received a check for \$1,000 for a homeless assistance fund from a Bozeman business. Johnson and others at the Library have discussed using these funds (and raising more) to provide temporary storage facilities for homeless patrons at the Library so they do not have to carry their belongings into the Library.

Johnson said that a homeowner's association is interested in purchasing Red Whirly, the sculpture by Gary Bates in front of the Library. The artist and the Library would like it to stay at the Library, so the Foundation and Library are coming up with a plan to purchase the \$25,000 sculpture. The Gallatin Art Crossing agreed to waive its commission if the Library buys it.

Johnson said the Foundation sent out an appeal to all donors except those who gave very recently, and followed up with a series of emails and Facebook posts. She said someone who had seen an email called today and is sending \$10,000 to the Foundation.

**Adjournment** There being no further business, Board Chair Mathre adjourned the meeting at 5:17pm.