



## Meeting Minutes

### Library Board

---

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

5:00 PM

La Crosse Main Library  
Auditorium (Lower Level)

---

#### Agenda

##### 1. Call to Order

*PRESENT:*

*Kathy Ivey, Katie Bittner, Aaron Engel, Shelley Hay, Mac Kiel, Araysa Simpson*

*ABSENT:*

*Sue Anglehart, Jodi Ehrenberger, Keonte Turner*

The Vice Chair, Ms. Ivey, called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

##### 2. Approval of Minutes from Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of July 13, 2021.

(Aaron Engel / Shelley Hay) Carried

##### 3. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes

Motion to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of Aug 3, 2021.

(Aaron Engel / Shelley Hay) Carried

##### 4. Election of Officers

Motion to nominate Kathy Ivey for Vice President.

(Katie Bittner / Aaron Engel) Carried

##### 5. Approval of Bills & Financial Reports

Motion to approve the bills and financial reports for July 2021.

(Aaron Engel / Shelley Hay) Carried

## 6. Reports

### 6.1 Director's Report

#### 6.11 Regional Read Presentation

Barry McKnight, Programming & Community Engagement Coordinator, provided an overview of the "Waking Up White" regional read. The regional read covers nine counties, including Houston and Winona counties in Minnesota. He explained how the library and other community organizations are supporting and contributing to the program. Events include several book chats and presentations, culminating in a white privilege symposium in November. Talking points will be created for staff, and will be shared with the Board.

#### 6.12 Vacancy Report

Several vacant positions were filled internally:

The Adult Services Librarian position was filled by Payge Rustad. Payge's former position, as Library Assistant in Programming and Outreach, was filled by Livi Hackbarth.

Trifton Dolbier moved into the Library Building Maintenance Supervisor position.

Danny Whitmore is the new IT Manager. Interviews are currently being conducted for his former position as Senior IT Specialist.

Recent new employees include: Kamryn Hartfield, Kylie Horne, and Sarah Ludington as part-time desk assistants, and Bryan Pedretti as Building Maintenance Worker.

Applications are currently being accepted for a Library Clerk vacancy after long-time clerk Bridget Brown left to pursue a full-time position elsewhere.

#### 6.13 Service Updates

Celebrations of branch re-openings were well received by those who attended. There were many positive comments, people are overjoyed to have some open hours at the branches. Many families enjoyed the play areas at both locations. A North patron commented that this was their family's favorite place. City Council representatives and Neighborhood Response Officers attended, the media was also present at both celebrations.

#### 6.14 Monthly Programming Highlights

The library hosted a book discussion with young adult book "We Will Always Be Here", which celebrates Wisconsin's LGBTQ history and also acts as a guide for those looking to support members of the LGBTQ community. There were 11 participants, and the program was a huge success. A small handful of participants came forward to thank the authors and the library for supporting the LGBTQ community. Some shared personal stories and acknowledged how important it is for the library to be doing outreach for a community who has historically been overlooked and marginalized. A teacher shared that she was excited to implement the book into her curriculum. UWL and Viterbo also reached out to thank the library for supporting this kind of

programming. Viterbo inquired about programing a similar event for their students. Teen Librarian Linda Jerome and Associate Archives Librarian Jenny DeRocher hosted this virtual program.

Due to inclement weather, the Summer Library Program wrap up StoryWalk Grand Opening and Picnic was rescheduled. This family event will now take place on Saturday, August 21st at the Chad Erickson Connector Trail.

6.15 2022 Operating Budget Update

With the exception of Salaries and Benefits, preliminary allocations will maintain the 2022 Operating Budget at the same level as the 2021 budget. Current salary information is being verified with City, and will be added to the request. Ms. Grant will be meeting with the Mayor, Finance Director and Budget Analyst on August 18th, and will update the Board once these numbers are added to the budget and ready to seek preliminary approval.

6.2 Committee of the Whole Report

6.21 WRLSWeb Agreement Approval

Motion to approve the 2022 WRLSWeb Agreement.  
(Araysa Simpson / Aaron Engel) Carried

6.22 Updated Meeting Room Policy Approval

Motion to approve the Updated Meeting Room Policy.  
(Aaron Engel / Katie Bittner) Carried

**7. Old Business**

None.

**8. Public Comment / Other**

None.

**9. Topics for Future Meetings**

- 9.1 2022 Operating Budget Process
- 9.2 CIP Update
- 9.3 Fundraiser Update
- 9.4 ARPA Update

**10. Adjournment**

Time: 5:40 p.m.

Motion to adjourn.  
(Araysa Simpson / Aaron Engel) Carried