

Bemidji Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2020

Present: Deb Graves, Lauree Bahr, Stephen Pflieger, Joyce Siegert, Kath Molitor
Absent: Deb Rossman, Heidi Johnson
Guest: Terry Thomas

I. Approval of January minutes: Motion to accept by Lauree Bahr, seconded by Steve Pflieger.

II. Manager's Report

- A. Financial report – presented by Sheri Brumback
- B. Usage statistics – presented by Sheri Brumback
- C. News – presented by Sheri Brumback.

Kitchigami Regional Library Service is still looking for a Technical Services Manager to handle software and the website.

The Bemidji Library is still trying out the KRLS mode on the new computer but not liking it yet.

Sheri trained for the census at a workshop in Duluth. The census form is shorter than before and online. It is based on where you are living on April 1, 2020. Homeless people can use the public library as their address.

Federal tax forms came in last week and are free at the library. Minnesota forms do not come to the library but may be downloaded from Internet.

February programs at the Bemidji Public Library include the following:

February 11, 12:00 noon – Adult book discussion. The Bartender's Tale by Ivan Doig.

February 11, 5:30 p.m. – “A Night of Mystery” by Barbara Schlichting: visit by a local author with live reading and book signing.

February 15, 12:00 noon – Storytime and book signing by Dr. John R. Eggers. Remember to Hug Your Grandma (and other important reminders for children).

February 15, 5:30 p.m. – Young Adult Book Club. The Book Jumper by Mechthild Glaser.

February 17 – Closed for Presidents' Day

February 18, 3:30-4:30 – Kids Book Club. One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia.

February 20, 7:00 p.m. – Pages to Pints at Bemidji Brewing

February 22, 12:00-2:15 p.m. Legacy grant program: Minnesota in the Vietnam War by Arn Kind

February 25, 3:30 – After-school movie. “Gnomeo and Juliet.” G-rated, 25 min.

February & March – Featured artist will be Alice Lacoursiere who will exhibit oil paintings depicting a variety of scenes she has taken photos of in her travels throughout the country and especially in Northern Minnesota.

March programs at the Bemidji Public Library before the next board meeting:

March 3, 5:30 p.m. – “Votes for Women, Ja!” This is a one-woman theatrical presentation and lecture featuring Jane Peck who will trace the pivotal contributions of Nordic immigrant suffragists to voting rights in Minnesota.

March 7, 2:00 p.m. – Legacy grant program: Laura McKenzie's Traditional Wind-Powered Music.

March 10, 5:30 p.m. – Sue Bruns will share the personal accounts and experiences of three turn-of-century/early 1900's female school teachers in Minnesota: Ester Cartwright, Lula St. Peter, and Ella Tamany (her grandmother).

III. Old Business

A. Funding provided to children's and young adult areas by the board was discussed. Sheri will continue to work with the staff in charge of those areas to develop a plan for using the funds. Carpet was installed 10 years ago and may be replaced by the City of Bemidji.

IV. New Business

A. Joyce Siegert reported that there had been an error in a date on the contract with the church for having the summer book sale. That has been rewritten and the city has paid the down payment. Sheri was given a copy of the new contract.

V. Kitchigami Regional Library Service report: None

VI. Friends of the Bemidji Public Library report: Terry Thomas explained the Mary Harding Literacy Grants and said that they are being given out soon, usually in the amount of \$400-500. A discussion of public school library needs revealed that there are areas where a grant of this type would be much appreciated. An example would be a set of new encyclopedias for Gene Dillon Elementary School. Schools could apply in the next round. Sara McKinney and Sharon Geisen are co-presidents of the Friends. Terry will be finishing her term and leaving the Friends' board in April.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Stephen Pfleger, seconded by Lauree Bahr.

Next meeting: March 10, 2020

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Siegert, Secretary