

Marathon County Public Library

Director's Report

March 2021

Included here are the "*Director's Activities*", "*Next Month Director's Activities*" and "*Library Projects, Programs, Events*" sections of the March 2021 Marathon County Public Library Director's Report, and agendas/approved minutes from December 2020, January 2021 and February 2021.

DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITIES

- 2-15-21 Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
- 2-19-21 Resource Library Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- 2-19-21 Marathon County Dept. Heads Meeting
- 3-4-21 Extension, Education, and Economic Dev. Committee Meeting
- 3-5-21 Toward One Wisconsin Planning Committee Meeting
- 3-8-21 Monthly agenda meeting with Library Board President
- 3-11-21 Marathon County Public Library Foundation Meeting
- 3-15-21 Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

NEXT MONTH DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITIES:

- 3-15-21 Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
- 3-19-21 Resource Library Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- 3-19-21 Marathon County Dept. Heads Meeting
- 3-22-21 Friends of the Marathon County Public Library Board Meeting
- 4-2-21 Toward One Wisconsin Planning Committee Meeting
- TBD Monthly agenda meeting with Library Board President
- 4-19-21 Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

LIBRARY PROJECTS, PROGRAMS, EVENTS:

- Replacement of network firewall appliances continues.
- Mapping networks and rebuilding wiring system project continues.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONTINUING ED, WORKSHOPS:

- ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition (Virtual), June 23-29, 2021
- TOWARD ONE WISCONSIN
- Building Bridges and Breaking Barriers. October 12-13, 2021, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Any other issues or items of note:

- New public service desks have been installed.
- New computer desks have been installed. We are awaiting new public seating furniture, and some booth style furnishings. All are expected by mid-April or sooner.

YS Programming team continuing upgrades. Video sample for meeting.



**COUNTY OF MARATHON
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN**

OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

**of a meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees,
Monday, December 21, 2020 at 12:00 noon
Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.**

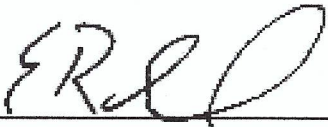
The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health directives, Marathon County encourages Library Board of Trustee members and the public to attend this meeting remotely. To this end, instead of attendance in person, Library Board of Trustee members and the public may attend this meeting by **computer or telephone conference**. If Library Board of Trustee members or members of the public cannot attend remotely, Marathon County requests that appropriate safety measures, including adequate social distancing, be utilized by all in-person attendees. Persons wishing to attend the meeting by computer or phone may log or call into **the conference beginning ten (10) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following website: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/503293397> or number: [1 866 899 4679](tel:18668994679). Access Code for dialing in: 503-293-397.**

When you enter the conference, **PLEASE PUT YOUR COMPUTER AND PHONE ON MUTE!**

AGENDA

1. (12:00 p.m.) **Call to Order**
2. **Acknowledgement of Visitors**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
4. **Bills and Services Report**
5. (10 minutes) **Public Comments**
6. (15 minutes) **Reports Regarding Recent Meetings and Communications. For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only. No Action will be taken.**
 - A. President
 - B. Other Board Members
 - C. Library Director
 - D. Board Committees
 - E. Friends of the Library
 - F. MCPL Foundation
 - G. Wisconsin Library Trustees & Friends (WLTF)
 - H. Wisconsin Valley Library Service
7. (5 minutes) **Transfer of funds to the Friends of MCPL – For Discussion and Possible Action**
8. (5 minutes) **Transfer of funds to the MCPL Foundation – For Discussion and Possible Action**
9. (5 minutes) **MCPL Foundation Video – For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only**
- 10.(10 minutes) **Furnishings Project Update – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 11.(5 minutes) **Patron records cleanup – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 12.(10 minutes) **Wi-Fi enhancements at branches – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 13.(5 minutes) **Library Director’s evaluation – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 14.(10 minutes) **Re-opening status discussion – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 15.(15 minutes) **Task Force for System Membership update – For Discussion and Possible Action**
16. **Announcements**
17. **Request for Future Agenda Items**

18. **Next Meeting Dates**
- Monday 01/25/2021
 - Monday 02/15/2021
 - Monday 03/15/2021
 - Monday 04/19/2021
19. **Adjournment**

Signed:  _____
Library Director

***All times are approximate and subject to change**
"Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the Library Administration Office at 715-261-7213."

FAXED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and
FAXED TO: Other Media Groups
FAXED BY: H. Wilde
FAXED DATE: December 15, 2020
FAXED TIME: 2:55 p.m.

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE

BY: _____
DATE: _____
TIME: _____

Regular meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees, Monday, December 21, 2020. Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.

Present: Sharon Hunter, Gary Beastrom, Jeff Campo, Dino Corvino (remote), Kari Sweeney (remote), Michelle Van Krey (remote), Scott Winch, Ralph Illick

Excused:

Others: Leah Giordano (remote), Thomas O'Neill, Heather Wilde, Ben Deitz, Mark Arend, 10 remote visitors

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 by Sharon Hunter.
Sharon Hunter welcomed visitors to the meeting. New Board Member Campo was introduced.

A motion was made by Scott Winch to approve the Board of Trustee minutes from the November 16, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Gary Beastrom. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kari Sweeney to approve the Bills & Services report for November 2020. Seconded by Dino Corvino. Motion carried.

Public Comments – None

President – No Report

Other Board Members – No Report

Director's Report – Presented in the Board packet and by Director Ralph Illick.

Board Committees – No Report

Friends of the Library – No report

MCPL Foundation – No Report

Wisconsin Library Trustees & Friends (WLTF) – No Report

Wisconsin Valley Library Service – Board Member Sweeney reported that at the November 21st meeting, the WVLS board encourages the MCPL Board of Trustees to read the rebuttal which was sent recently in regards to the financial report.

Transfer of funds to the Friends of MCPL

If donations are made to the library, by our policy they would go to the Friends of MCPL if they are of a certain amount. We need to transfer the funds with Board of Trustees approval. The amount we are asking to be transferred is \$4,987.00.

A Motion was made by Michelle Van Krey to transfer \$4,987.00 to the Friends of MCPL. Seconded by Gary Beastrom. Motion carried.

Transfer of funds to MCPL Foundation

Transfer \$44,661.97 to the MCPL Foundation.

A Motion was made by Scott Winch to transfer \$44,661.97 to the MCPL Foundation. Seconded by Jeff Campo. Motion carried.

MCPL Foundation Video

The Foundation video was played for everyone to view.

Furnishings Project Update

The Foundation has agreed to fund up to \$400,000 for the interior furnishing projects. This includes all of the service point desks at the main library and the public furnishings. The actual bill will be around \$383,000. The project manager at facilities has seen the proposals and Engberg Anderson is happy with what they are seeing. The bills are now being sent to Engberg Anderson, they are then forwarded to us (MCPL) for payment. We then ask the Foundation for reimbursement. We are asking the Board of Trustees to approve the payment of the bills up to \$383,000.

A Motion was made by Scott Winch to approve payments of bills up to \$383,000 to purchase furniture for the library to be reimbursed by the Marathon County Public Library Foundation. Seconded by Kari Sweeney. Motion carried.

Patron records cleanup

We have a significant amount of patrons who have not been here in many years. There are two factors in this; where patrons who have not used the library or their cards since the end of 2013 and the other where there is a significant amount of library fines. We have changed integrated library systems twice, not all of the information transfers forward. It is old enough that it is extremely difficult to collect any of that money. We would like to have three (3) to five (5) years of active data of relevant information.

A Motion was made by Jeff Campo for approval for the staff to move forward with looking at the patron records cleanup and bring back a report. Seconded by Gary Beaström. Motion carried.

Wi-Fi enhancements at branches

We have notified this board that through County Administration and City County IT, there was a push to use the route to recover money to enhance our Wi-Fi at the branch locations. We do not control anything at the branches other than the interiors of the buildings of which we serve the public. We received further information for this project in a report from the vendor that was incomplete. What we are asking for today, is for the board to approve our sending out library staff to each of the branch locations to work with the municipalities.

A Motion was made by Michelle Van Krey to authorize staff to continue the process and work directly with the municipalities. Seconded by Dino Corvino. Motion carried.

Library Director's evaluation

Board President conducted an evaluation and wanted to thank everyone for their thoughts.

No motion was made

Re-opening status discussion

We haven't changed our status. We are still serving the public through appointments, curbside and drive up service. I have continued the conversation with the Health Department and I have been asked not to do anything differently at this time.

No motion was made

Task force for System Membership update

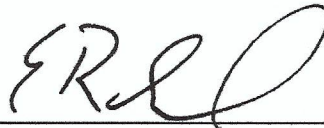
Task Force Chair Arend reported that the Task Force has been meeting since January reviewing information. This morning at the meeting voted to leave Wisconsin Valley Library Service and join South Central Library System. We will be coming to you with a formal recommendation and report at the January meeting. If you approve that, it will go to the County and the County Board. Does anyone on the Library Board have specific questions in which the Task Force report should address?

No motion was made

Announcements – None

Request for Future Agenda Items – None

A Motion was made by Scott Winch to adjourn the meeting at 12:48 p.m. Seconded by Jeff Campo. Motion carried.



Library Director



**COUNTY OF MARATHON
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN**

OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

**of a meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees,
Monday, January 25, 2021 at 12:00 noon
Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.**

The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health directives, Marathon County encourages Library Board of Trustee members and the public to attend this meeting remotely. To this end, instead of attendance in person, Library Board of Trustee members and the public may attend this meeting by **computer or telephone conference**. If Library Board of Trustee members or members of the public cannot attend remotely, Marathon County requests that appropriate safety measures, including adequate social distancing, be utilized by all in-person attendees. Persons wishing to attend the meeting by computer or phone may log or call into **the conference beginning ten (10) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following website: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/307141637> or number: [1 866 899 4679](tel:18668994679). Access Code for dialing in: 307-141-637.**

When you enter the conference, **PLEASE PUT YOUR COMPUTER AND PHONE ON MUTE!**

AGENDA

1. (12:00 p.m.) **Call to Order**
2. **Acknowledgement of Visitors**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
4. **Bills and Services Report**
5. (10 minutes) **Public Comments**
6. (15 minutes) **Reports Regarding Recent Meetings and Communications. For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only. No Action will be taken.**
 - A. President
 - B. Other Board Members
 - C. Library Director
 - D. Board Committees
 - E. Friends of the Library
 - F. MCPL Foundation
 - G. Wisconsin Library Trustees & Friends (WLTF)
 - H. Wisconsin Valley Library Service
7. (5 minutes) **Furnishings Project update – For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only**
8. (5 minutes) **Discussion of expired accounts pre-2014 postponement – For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only**
9. (5 minutes) **Staffing update – For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only**
- 10.(5 minutes) **Re-opening discussion – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 11.(5 minutes) **Wi-Fi enhancement project and new branch agreements update – For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only**
- 12.(15 minutes) **County Strategic Plan alignments with System Membership Review/Rebecca Frisch, retired Marathon County Director of Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department. – For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only**
- 13.(30 minutes) **Board discussion of Task Force recommendation – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 14.(10 minutes) **Corporation Counsel potential discussion of steps in the event of board recommendation to change system membership – For Discussion and Possible Action**
15. **Announcements**
16. **Request for Future Agenda Items**

Regular meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees, Monday, January 25, 2021. Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.

Present: Sharon Hunter, Gary Beastrom, Jeff Campo, Dino Corvino (remote), Kari Sweeney (remote), Michelle Van Krey (remote), Scott Winch, Ralph Illick

Excused:

Others: Leah Giordano, Thomas O'Neill, Heather Wilde, Ben Deitz, Mark Arend (remote), Rebecca Frisch (remote), Shannon Schultz (remote), 41 remote visitors

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 by Sharon Hunter. Sharon Hunter welcomed visitors to the meeting and conducted a roll call of the Library Board of Trustees.

A motion was made by Michelle Van Krey to approve the Board of Trustee minutes from the December 21, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Kari Sweeney. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gary Beastrom to approve the Bills & Services report for December 2020. Seconded by Jeff Campo. Motion carried.

Public Comments – There are two individuals that have requested to speak during public comments. Laurie Ollhoff submitted a letter and citizen petition to the MCPL Board, which can be found at the following link:

https://www.mcpl.us/sites/default/files/attachments/20210125_letter-and-marathon-county-citizen-petition-from-laurie-ollhoff_0.pdf

https://www.mcpl.us/sites/default/files/attachments/20210125_letter-and-librarian-petition-from-antigo-pl-director_1.pdf

Dr. Keith Montgomery submitted a letter to the MCPL Board President, which can be found at the following link:

https://www.mcpl.us/sites/default/files/attachments/20210125_letter-from-keith-montgomery-to-mcpl-board-president_0.pdf

President – No Report

Other Board Members – No Report

Director's Report – Presented in the Board packet and by Director Ralph Illick.

- Last month I did mention that we are working on building our library programs and our story times into something more professional and more competitive with other kinds of story times. I have spoken with the Foundation to include this in the technology grant.
- A couple of videos in which the Library Services team has been working on as introductions to the programming were shared.

Board Committees – No Report

Wi-Fi enhancement project and new branch agreements update

We talked about the augmentation of our Wi-Fi and new access points that would be broadcasted out further into communities. Because of the layers of factors in doing this, we don't control anything at the branches besides what is inside of the buildings.

Conversations with Corporation Counsel led us all to believe that the agreements with each municipality expired at the end of 2020. They were updated five (5) years ago, the first time since 1994, with a new County Administrator. With one (1) extra layer included for the Wi-Fi we will be working with Corporation Counsel to develop a new agreement.

County Strategic Plan alignments with System Membership Review/Rebecca Frisch, retired Marathon County Director of Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department

Rebecca Frisch presented information on the Marathon County strategic plan and the Marathon County comprehensive plan.

Board discussion of Task Force recommendation

Task Force Chair Mark Arend gave the recommendation to the Library Board of Trustees and how the Task Force came to the decision.

President Hunter wanted to make sure all of the board member saw the report the task force put together and presented to everyone. Supervisor Van Krey did see the recommendation from the task force and at this time would like to make a motion.

A Motion was made by Michelle Van Krey that MCPL maintain its membership with WVLS. Seconded by Kari Sweeney. There was discussion before moving on to accepting the motion.

Board Member Van Krey has some comments she would like to share. Some of them have been shared from earlier in the meeting during the public comments session and if you have been reading the letters and comments that have been received earlier. This was an agonizing decision for me. I spent a lot of time researching this and going back since being semi new to the board, there was a lot I needed to catch up on. Our patrons will be affected with longer wait times for popular titles and haven't had a chance to weigh in on that. We never made a clear reason why we should be leaving WVLS. There is no guarantee on staffing cost savings without eliminating positions. We risk burning bridges with our region by leaving.

Board Member Corvino has some comments he would like to share. I did speak with Sharon on some of the historical perspective on the issue and I did speak to others this morning. The thing that stands out to me isn't the operational decision, but rather the clear lack of discussion between two organizations being MCPL and WVLS. The day I was appointed to the board I received a likened message from someone related to this very discussion asking me not to not vote to support leaving WVLS. Since then I have received both public and private messages related to this discussion publically shaming in tone. The information that was received this morning could have been sent six (6) months ago, but instead we receive the information the day of the vote. I absolutely resent that I received this information this morning.

Board Member Campo read a statement. It is of great concern that after reading page after page of emails and letters, the negative tone has taken on a life of its own. Newly appointed to this board, I can truly say that I am surprised to see the level of undermining that I have read. I started painting at the library in September, the leadership and professionalism of this staff in administration is impressive. What has been accomplished

Dino – no
Jeff – no
Gary – yes
Scott - no
Sharon – no

There is a four (4) to three (3) vote to not maintain the membership with WVLS.

A motion was made by Scott Winch to withdraw from WVLS and seek membership with SCLS. Seconded by Jeff Campo.

Scott – yes
Jeff – yes
Kari – no
Gary – no
Dino – yes
Michelle – no
Sharon – yes

There is a four (4) to three (3) vote to withdraw from WVLS and seek membership with SCLS.

Corporation Counsel potential discussion of steps in the event of board recommendation to change system membership

The next step would be a public hearing with the Education Extension Economic Development Committee. There has to be at least 30 days' notice provided prior to that hearing. After the public hearing the County Board would need to hold a vote on the withdrawal and there would need to be two thirds majority of the quorum present must approve the withdrawal. This must be approved before June 30.

No motion was made

Announcements – none

Request for Future Agenda Items – none

A Motion was made by Scott Winch to adjourn the meeting at 1:27p.m. Seconded by Gary Beaström. Motion carried.



Library Director



**COUNTY OF MARATHON
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN**

OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

**of a meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees,
Monday, February 15, 2021 at 12:00 noon
Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.**


The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health directives, Marathon County encourages Library Board of Trustee members and the public to attend this meeting remotely. To this end, instead of attendance in person, Library Board of Trustee members and the public may attend this meeting by **computer or telephone conference**. If Library Board of Trustee members or members of the public cannot attend remotely, Marathon County requests that appropriate safety measures, including adequate social distancing, be utilized by all in-person attendees. Persons wishing to attend the meeting by computer or phone may log or call into **the conference beginning ten (10) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following website: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/649367133> or number: [1 877 568 4106](tel:18775684106). Access Code for dialing in: 649-367-133.**

When you enter the conference, **PLEASE PUT YOUR COMPUTER AND PHONE ON MUTE!**

AGENDA

1. (12:00 p.m.) **Call to Order**
2. **Acknowledgement of Visitors**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
4. **Bills and Services Report**
5. (10 minutes) **Public Comments**
6. (15 minutes) **Reports Regarding Recent Meetings and Communications. For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only. No Action will be taken.**
 - A. President
 - B. Other Board Members
 - C. Library Director
 - D. Board Committees
 - E. Friends of the Library
 - F. MCPL Foundation
 - G. Wisconsin Library Trustees & Friends (WLTF)
 - H. Wisconsin Valley Library Service
7. (10 minutes) **2020 Annual report – For Discussion and Possible Action**
8. (10 minutes) **Statement Concerning System Effectiveness – For Discussion and Possible Action**
9. (5 minutes) **Year-end fund – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 10.(15 minutes) **Re-opening conversation with Marathon County Health Dept. Liaison Russ Mech – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 11.(5 minutes) **Branch agreements and Wi-Fi augmentation process update – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 12.(5 minutes) **Committee assignments – For Discussion and Possible Action**
- 13.(15 minutes) **Library System review process – Request to DPI regarding effect of withdrawal - For Discussion and Possible Action**
14. **Announcements**
15. **Request for Future Agenda Items**

16. **Next Meeting Dates**
- Monday 03/15/2021
 - Monday 04/19/2021
 - Monday 05/17/2021
 - Monday 06/21/2021
17. **Adjournment**

Signed:  _____
Library Director

*All times are approximate and subject to change
"Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the Library Administration Office at 715-261-7213."

FAXED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and
FAXED TO: Other Media Groups
FAXED BY: H. Wilde
FAXED DATE: February 11, 2021
FAXED TIME: 8:30 a.m.

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE
BY: _____
DATE: _____
TIME: _____

Regular meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees, Monday, February 15, 2021. Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.

Present: Sharon Hunter, Gary Beastrom (remote), Jeff Campo, Dino Corvino (remote), Kari Sweeney (remote), Michelle Van Krey (remote), Scott Winch, Ralph Illick

Excused:

Others: Leah Giordano, Thomas O'Neill, Heather Wilde, Ben Deitz, Russell Mech, 32 remote visitors

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 by Sharon Hunter.
Sharon Hunter welcomed visitors to the meeting.

A motion was made by Scott Winch to approve the Board of Trustee minutes from the January 25, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Jeff Campo. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kari Sweeney to approve the Bills & Services report for January 2021. Seconded by Dino Corvino. Motion carried.

Public Comments – John Robinson is a member of the County Board of Supervisors and the Chair of the Broadband Task Force. He spoke to the Library Board regarding the broadband services in Marathon County. The task force appreciates the opportunities that have been presented through the potential expansion of Wi-Fi services at the library. We understand there are some technical issues and contractual issues that need to be resolved. We just wanted to express the appreciation of the task force to use the facilities in creating the hotspots and offer assistance working with the municipalities in anyway.

President – I did receive a letter from WVLS President Tom Bobrofsky, wanting us to get together. My recommendation is that Director Illick, myself, Chairman Gibbs, Corporation Counsel, County Administrator, WVLS Director and WVLS President have a meeting and discuss the letter.

Other Board Members – No Report

Director's Report – Presented in the Board packet and by Director Ralph Illick.

- Item number two (2) on the Business Report. Corporation Counsel is reviewing language for the agreements that County Supervisor Robinson was referencing earlier. I can note for all the members of the board that I did get a copy of the updated agreements that Corporation Counsel have been working on. It is addressed in the agreements the part about the Wi-Fi enhancement. What I can do is talk to the administrative specialist in the County Administrators office to start setting up the meetings. I would like to remind you that the vendor who would like to install the Wi-Fi units, would like the meetings done within a week.

Board Committees – No Report

Friends of the Library – The Library Director reported that he did ask the former Friends President about private sales as this was brought up at the last month's meeting. Those that have a current Friends membership always get first option at the sales. She welcomed the input and would take that into consideration.

MCPL Foundation – No Report

Wisconsin Library Trustees & Friends (WLTF) – No Report

Wisconsin Valley Library Service – Report included in the packet.

2020 Annual report

We finished the details and received the final report from WVLS.

A Motion was made by Jeff Campo to accept 2020 Annual Report and file it with DPI. Seconded by Gary Beastron. Motion carried.

Statement Concerning System Effectiveness

This would be the Library Board decision, we haven't seen much change in what happens here we have taken care what we needed to. We have been under a pandemic for most of the year and service has been limited. We have had some challenges with the way it has gone through the process of review. You can check yes for system effectiveness, you can check no or you can check a box that you would rather talk to DPI.

Roll Call Vote for the following motion

A motion was made by Michelle Van Kray to check the positive box that they have provided good leadership. Seconded by Kari Sweeney.

Gary – yes
Michelle – yes
Kari – yes
Dino – no
Jeff – no
Scott – no
Sharon – no

Roll Call Vote for the following motion

A motion was made by Scott Winch to check the box to talk to DPI. Seconded by Jeff Campo.

Gary – yes
Michelle – yes
Kari – yes
Dino – yes
Jeff - yes
Scott – yes
Sharon – yes

Year-end fund

We do not have final numbers yet. The information was turned over to County Finance and we have not heard from them.

No motion was made

Re-opening conversation with Marathon County Health Dept. Liaison Russell Mech

Russell Mech from the Marathon County Health Department introduced himself. Based on the request from the January meeting we wanted to have a comprehensive conversation on where we are. As a reminder for everyone at branches we have limited amount of patrons in the building by appointment only. They can use computers or browse the collection. At the main library we are doing computer appointments, drive up service and grab and go activities. Are the board members comfortable with what we are doing right now or would you like to see any changes and if so what would those changes be?

Do you think it is still necessary to quarantine books? It is still recommend that the materials still get quarantined.

With the availability of vaccines and schools reopening with proper precautions, would that affect your opinion about us reopening and having patrons in the library again? It is hard to say Marathon County has just recently gone down from Very High to High activity. There is now the question of the new variants out there. I would recommend maintaining current services that you have now and maybe see the status in a few weeks. We are much lower than we were in September.

Would it be possible to reopen on a limited basis or at 25% capacity? It's hard to say right now. Wisconsin Public Libraries and other branches will have some more guidance on that along with the CDC, the State and DHS. With a high activity, I would error on an abundance of caution to maintain where you are at a little bit longer and see where the trend continues.

We can bring a model to the March meeting. We would add limited services in a safe way.

No motion was made

Branch agreements and Wi-Fi augmentation process update

This was discussed in the Directors report. I will talk with County Administration and start setting up the meetings.

No motion was made

Committee assignments

I am hoping everyone saw the descriptions of the committees that are currently in place.

Personnel – Sharon, Scott and Jeff

Nominating – Dino, Michelle, and Gary

WVLS Reprehensive - Kari

A Motion was made by Scott Winch to keep the Personnel and Nominating Committees and remove the Building and Educating Committees. Seconded by Kari Sweeney. Motion carried.

Library System review process – Request to DPI regarding effect of withdrawal

Board President Hunter spoke on this agenda item. This was not on the EEEDC agenda which was to meet February 4. There was a lot of information circulating in the County in terms as to why we should not proceed to move to a new system. Unfortunately some of it is misinformation, I'm not sure where this information is coming from. I am very concerned because our board is split on their decision. I am thinking if it would be valuable if each of us brought up a topic we were concerned about. What if we invited DPI to our meeting? Board Member Campo has great concern with what has been read in the emails. I have a direct question. If WVLS, the staff and the board have said repeatedly that if MCLP moves to SCLS it would destroy the other WVLS libraries? Can DPI confirm this? It seems critical for our patrons, our board, and our county board for proper understanding.

Roll Call Vote for the following motion

A Motion was made by Jeff Campo for DPI to come before the Library Board of Trustees and talk about what the effect would be from withdrawing from WVLS. What the effect would be on WVLS and is it destroying the smaller libraries. Seconded by Scott Winch. Motion carried.

Gary – yes
Michelle – yes
Kari – yes
Dino – yes
Jeff – yes
Scott – yes
Sharon – yes

Corporation Counsel explained the process going forward.

There were additional discussions among the Library Director and Library Board Members regarding this agenda item.

Library Board President Hunter restated the motion after Corporation Counsel described the process.

Announcements – Board Member Van Krey will not be at the March meeting.

Request for Future Agenda Items – Invite DPI to the March meeting

A Motion was made by Scott Winch to adjourn the meeting at 1:12 p.m. Seconded by Jeff Campo. Motion carried.



Library Director

Note: These minutes subject to approval at the next Library Board meeting scheduled for March 15, 2021.