



## LIBRARIES

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting  
Thursday, July 23, 9AM  
Online Meeting  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Online attendance: Marsha Sultz, Connie Leistiko, Heidi Roedel, Doug Adams, Al Logan (Board); Connie Behe, Teri Dugan, (Staff); Charlotte Housel (Foundation)**

- A. Call to Order:** C. Leistiko called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

Liestiko congratulated H. Roedel on their reappointment to the Library Board. Leisitko commended Behe on being appointed by the Montana Governor to sit on the Montana State Library Commission.

- B. Open time for persons to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction.**

There were no comments from the public.

- C. Approval of Minutes** Thursday, June 25, 2020. **(ACTION)**

**Moved by D. Adams** "to approve the June 25 Board Minutes as presented."

**Seconded by M. Sultz**

**The motion passed with all Trustees voting in favor.**

- D. Reports**

**A. Financial Report-** Dugan, Behe

- Dugan and Behe reviewed the June financial spending report. June reporting is still in progress.
- Behe reported estimated budget savings for the FY20 year. Final June reports are expected to be presented in August.

**B. Director and Staff Report-** Behe

- Behe shared that it was an honor to be chosen for the Montana State Library Commission by the Montana State Governor.
- Youth with A Mission (YWAM) collaborated with Flathead Valley Mask Makers and has donated 500 cloth masks to the library to distribute.
- ImagineIF Bigfork now has a portable bathroom set up for library staff use. The current restroom in the building did not allow for social distancing guidelines. The portable restroom will be onsite for 3 months.
- ImagineIF Libraries and Kalispell Regional Healthcare continue to work together to circulate iPads and WiFi to a

group of community members as part of a large research project. KRH will purchase the equipment and donate it to the library after use. Library staff will tutor users on device use and Zoom meeting instructions. A similar project involving technology kits has been proposed to the Kalispell Job Service.

- A ramp installation is suggested for the delivery of library materials in Columbia Falls. More details to come as options and funding is explored.
- Behe recently had a conversation with Kalispell Police Chief, Doug Overman. The library continues to have a positive and supportive relationship with KPD.
- The library continues to reach out to schools in the area as options for reopening schools develop. The library is prepared to support families as the school year begins.
- Behe took questions. Roedel asked about the quantity of devices being circulated in the library in the new Tech Connect program.
- Leistiko recognized staff for providing wonderful library service to the community during the pandemic.

Patron complaint re: face covering requirement - Behe

- Behe shared information about a recent interaction with a community member who contacted Commissioner Randy Brodhel about face coverings in the library.

Year-end Statistics- Anderson

- Anderson presented statistics for the end of fiscal year 20.

C. Facilities Committee Report- Logan, Behe

- Behe stated that a Facilities meeting should be scheduled.
- The Flathead County Commissioners have moved forward on a purchase of a former Centurylink building.
- The Bigfork capital campaign continues at a steady pace. The Library Foundation is focused as efforts continue for the campaign.
- Real estate is selling fast in the Flathead Valley and the population growth rate is at 2-3% a year.

D. Foundation Report- Housel

- Housel mentioned the Library Foundation is prepared to transfer the money received from the Bigfork Rotary Grant to the library for technology purchased for ImagineIF Bigfork.
- 400K has been raised for the future Bigfork Library.
- Housel is applying for various grants.
- A team is collaborating with the Friends of the Library to move the annual fundraising book sale to an online format.
- The Bigfork Capital Campaign is moving ahead at a steady pace. Two future events are planned. The in-person events will follow social distancing guidelines. A projected 2022 grand opening is set for a new library in Bigfork.
- A podcast is in the works as well as a newsletter.

- Leistiko thanked the Library Foundation for their continued dedication and work as they adjust during the time of a pandemic.

**E. Old Business**

A. Face Covering Requirement Policy (**ACTION**)

- Behe reviewed Policy 2012, approved at the June board meeting.

**Moved by A. Logan** "To approve the policy requiring face coverings in the Library as presented in policy 2012: Face Covering Requirement; as a follow-up to approval of the requirement at the June Board meeting."

**Seconded by M. Sultz**

**Discussion:**

- Adams asked how phases were arrived at for the library. Behe explained that the library has designed reopening phases to align the State of Montana reopening phases.
- Adams inquired about the age requirement of face coverings and invited input about setting an age requirement.
- Behe shared that it was not recommended for children 2 and under to wear face coverings. The Governor's mandate stated ages 5 and above to wear coverings. The Library Board may pass a more restrictive guideline but not a less restrictive guideline.
- Leistiko commented that Behe is working closely with the county health department and their recommendations.
- Adams stated that in his opinion those that are more at risk or are fearful can choose to wear masks.
- Roedel stated she will oppose the motion as she feels the stance of the general public is in opposition to face covering requirements and feels there is no science behind the requirement.
- Logan stated that there are emotions involved with the requirement. Logan stated that being cautious and wearing masks will help to prevent the library being closed.
- Adams said changing the library policy age to 5 and up would be a good compromise.

Leistiko amended the motion "to change Policy 2012 age requirement from age 2 to age 5 to require face coverings while in the library."

**The motion passed with Trustees Leistiko, Logan, Adams and Sultz voting in yes, and Trustee Roedel voting no.**

**BREAK 11:00AM  
RESUME 11:10AM**

Adams asked to go on the record as changing his vote from the previous motion regarding the adoption of Policy 2012: Face Covering Requirement from Yes to No. Adams stated he was reversing his vote due to a statement from an unknown person in the online audience.

The Board Chair agreed that it was inappropriate for the audience member to interject the opinion at that time and was sorry that the comment occurred.

The Library Board and Director confirmed that none of them made the comment.

**Final vote recorded as Trustees Leistikio, Logan and Sultz voting yes, and Trustees Roedel and Adams voting no.**

**F. New Business**

A. Standing Committee Appointments

Board Chair Leistikio appointed the following committees for the 2020-2021 year.

2020-2021 Committee Appointments						
Finance	Policy	Personnel	Foundation Representative	Alternate Foundation Representative	Tamarack Federation Representative	Facilities
Connie Leistikio	Doug Adams	Heidi Roedel	Connie Leistikio	Heidi Roedel	Al Logan	Doug Adams
Al Logan	Marsha Sultz	Marsha Sultz				Al Logan

B. Mill Levy Presentation-Tracy Cook, Montana State Library

- Tracy Cook, Lead Statewide Consulting Librarian presented a workshop on Mill Levies.
- Workshop included information about Montana law and regulations regarding mill levies, running a mill levy campaign, and Montana law and regulation.
- Q & A followed the session

**G. Housekeeping**

**Next regular meeting:** Thursday, August 27, 9-12 Online.

**H. Adjourn: 12:28 pm**