**Bloomfield Public Library**

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting**

**September 12, 2023**

**Board Minutes**

**Present Absent**

Russ Mikels Roger Wuthrich

Rhonda Eakins Lindsey Helton

Sheila Westegard

Marilyn Piper

Shannon Vesely

Amy Tyson

Marty Hudson

Anne Tews, Library Director

Margaret Nuttall, Children’s Librarian

Robert Von Bon, Library Employee

Britt Scott, Library patron

Pam Whitacre, Library patron

Dana Armstrong

The meeting was called to order at 5:15. The August minutes, the consent agenda, and the monthly claims were voted on and approved.

In unfinished business, the Board members were given a 3-D printer demonstration. Patron Britt Scott brought his own 3-D printer to demonstrate what the printer can do and to explain the benefits of having such a printer in the Bloomfield Public Library. Children’s Librarian, Margaret Nuttall reported that library memorial money has been designated to buy a 3-D printer. She explained how patrons would sign safety/usage waivers on which they would declare their printing intent. Patrons would pay by the gram (of PLA filaments) to complete their projects. Margaret reported that there has been community interest in 3-D printers and that purchasing a 3-D printer would provide more opportunities for technical education. She will provide the Library Board with several 3-D printer options for their review.

In other unfinished business, Margaret provided the Library Board with an update on additional computer/tablet purchases, primarily for the children’s section. She provided advantages and disadvantages regarding the Amazon Fire tablet, the iPad, the Samsung Galaxy tablet, the mini-PC, as well as the Mac and/or PC computer. She advised against purchasing laptops for security and device protection reasons. The library receives monthly requests for Mac usage, and Anne reported that some patrons with iPhones prefer to print from a compatible Mac computer. Margaret offered to continue to research options, which she will send to the Library Board.

In new business, the Library Board decided to postpone officer nominations and election until the October meeting.

To open discussion about library staff salaries, Anne presented the board with information about similar sized libraries whose average director’s salary is $24 per hour. She reported that at $20 per hour, she makes considerably less than other directors in D-size libraries. In addition, she provided the board with current city employee salaries, so that the board could review how her salary, as well as Margaret’s, compare. She asked that the Library Board to consider making both salaries more equitable by raising them to better align with other comparable city positions. Her salary requests must by submitted by October 1, 2023; the overall library budget must be submitted in November/December.

Russ Mikels proposed a special Finance Committee meeting to be held on Monday, September 18 at 5:00 P.M. The purpose of this meeting is to review the current budget and to draft salary proposals for both Anne and Margaret for the board’s discussion and approval.

**Committee Reports:**

There were no specific committee reports made.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Vesely (for Lindsey Helton)