

**Belleville Area District Library  
Meeting Minutes  
November 12, 2024**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** The following board members were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Alma Hughes-Grubbs, John Juriga, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest, and Tonya Stoudemire. Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy.  
  
Chair Peters welcomed newly elected board member Dr. Maria Jackson-Smith who will begin her term in January.
3. **Approve Agenda:**  
Motion by Juriga, seconded by Priest, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Approve October 8, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Stoudemire, to approve the October 8, 2024, minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Public Comments:** Dr. Jackson-Smith noted that she looks forward to working with everyone and that she has big shoes to fill in replacing John Juriga on the board.
6. **Committee Reports**
  - A. **Building:** The committee met and recommended moving forward with O'Neal Construction on the automated restroom doors, bathroom vape detectors, and black tread on the circular stairs. The other flagpole light will also be replaced.
  - B. **Bylaws:** No report.
  - C. **Finance:** Stoudemire presented the 3-month General Fund Budget Comparison Schedule.
  - D. **Marketing:** No report.
  - E. **Personnel:** No report.
  - F. **Policy:** No report.
  - G. **Art:** The award-winning works from the BACA art show are on display.
7. **Approve Accounts Payable:** Motion by Stoudemire, seconded by Cichewicz, to approve the accounts payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
8. **Director's Report:** See attached. The library's internet and telephone services are currently down. The outage is affecting all of the libraries in The Library Network's Wide Area Network.
9. **Trustee Comments:**  
Cichewicz – Is glad to be on the board for another four years and looks forward to keeping the library doing what it needs to do. She is happy to have Maria join the board.

Hughes-Grubbs – Congratulated all who ran for the board and looks forward to serving. She wished everyone a great holiday.

Stoudemire – Congratulated all of the board winners and welcomed Dr. Jackson-Smith to the board.

Fleming – Echoed Stoudemire's comments. Noted that Harvest Fest was very busy and that it was nice to see the crowds at the library. He witnessed children who saw the children's room for their very first time. He thanked the staff for a very well-organized Harvest Fest.

Juriga – Encountered a gentleman at a restaurant who really likes our library.

Priest – Was reading a Sunday New York Times article regarding some of the stress that librarians can face at work.

**10. Chair Comments:**

Peters – Observed that management has been handling staffing very well. She is thankful for this board and library and to be engaged with the work that the library does.

**11. Adjournment:**

Motion by Juriga, seconded by Priest, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.