Approved 12-9-2025

Belleville Area District Library
Meeting Minutes
Date: November 18, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:51 pm.

2. **Roll Call:** The following board members were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest
   Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, Library Assistant Nikki Pickeral
   Excused: Alma Hughes-Grubbs, Maria Jackson-Smith, Tanya Stoudemire

3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Fleming to approve the November 18, 2025, Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Approve October 14, 2025, Minutes:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Priest, to approve the October 14, 2025, Minutes as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

5. **Public Comments:** An inquiry was made into the status of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. (The status is pending a court ruling).

6. **Committee Reports:**
   A. **Building:** No Report.
   B. **Bylaws:** No Report.
   C. **Finance:** Suchy reminded the board that the annual audit is coming and the board will receive emails about it.
   D. **Outreach:** No Report.
   E. **Personnel:** No Report. Suchy reported that the director evaluation is coming in January. She also reported an issue between United HealthCare and Corewell Health. If this issue isn't resolved, Corewell's doctors and hospitals will no longer be covered by UHC. This will affect half of the library's staff.
   F. **Policy:** No Report.
   G. **Art:** No Report.

7. **Approve Accounts Payable:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Fleming, to approve the accounts payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **Director's Report:** See attached. The library is a site for donations of food for the Methodist Church's Food Closet as well as for donations to Toys for Tots. The library's 2025 honey is for sale. Proceeds go to the Friends of the Library.

9. **Trustee Comments:**
   Fleming: Raved about the library's programs. He came to 3 programs and was impressed with the quality of the presenters and information. Had a wonderful time at Classic Movie Night, Jazz Night, and the program about Native American influence on Michigan architecture.

Priest: Agreed with Fleming's comment and added that the board members should bring a person with them when they attend a program or just to visit the library. Especially if that person has never been to our library.
Cichewicz: Really enjoyed the article Suchy included in the board packs this month, "Reading While Neurodivergent: A Librarian's Guide to Loving Books on your Own Terms." Her grandson is neurodivergent and 17 years old, and he still loves picture books and audio books.

10. **Chair Comments:** Peters also enjoyed the article and how it highlights all the reading diversity there is as well as the importance of giving more people the opportunity to enjoy books no matter their age or reading level. She added that it is wonderful the library is a big part of that.

11. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Fleming, seconded by Priest. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.