The Butler Public Library Board of Trustees Minutes
October 1, 2020 Meeting

Meeting called to order: at 6:04 p.m. by Camille Piccirillo
The required posting was made in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act

Roll Call:
Present: Helen Donargo, Maryanne Hanisch, Nancy Moody, Camille Piccirillo and Luis Rodriguez.

Excused: Robert Alviene, Suzanne Greco and Becky Karpowich

Minutes:
The Board reviewed the draft of the September meeting minutes. Two corrections to the draft were noted: The rate on the new CD is not 2.51% (that was the rate on the CD opened last year). The interest rate on the new CD is 0.40%. Also, the CD opened last year became due on September 12, not 21. C. Piccirillo and M. Hanisch went to the bank on Sept. 16 to open the new CD.

N. Moody motion to accept with changes noted above. M. Hanisch seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion of accepting the minutes with the changes.

President’s Comments
The President was excited to hear how it is going with library letting people into the building.

Director’s Report:
The Director had sent a written report to the Board before the meeting. He highlighted some items from the report:

This was not the report – it is breaking news: The Director just received information on what the Library will receive in the 2021 mill rate. It will receive $2,100+ more than it received this year. Also, the State aid check is more than we project in the budget. The approved budget projected down that State aid will be $3,000. The State aid check will be $3,261.

The Director tried to show he Board the appointment sheets for Library use. It was hard to see on screen. The Director said that people are coming in but not as they had before COVID. Other libraries are having the same experience.
The Director mentioned a thread on the Butler Community Facebook site in which a poster thought the Library should let more people in and without appointments. The Director explained the current policy - one person browsing in the adult section and one family in the children's section during the half hour appointment periods. The Director said that the community was pretty supportive of the Library's policy.

The Director discussed how patrons browse in the adult section. Patrons come in and spend ten to fifteen minutes browsing in that section. If the Library allowed more than one person in that section, it could become a problem when one person is browsing the section and another person comes in to browse the same section. The second patron would have to wait until the first person is finished. This could cause problems between patrons. We try to be flexible whenever possible and staffing allows.

N. Moody said that for a small library, the Library is doing well. The other Board members agreed. The Director thanked the Board for their comments.

The “Open Air” programs (where we set up tables of books and other items outside the Library on a Saturday) are doing well. 25 came on the past Saturday and 35 on another Saturday.

The “Therapy Dog” program (where children read a book to a therapy dog trained for this) is also going well. Three of the four slots each week are being filled.

M. Hanisch said that the Library is offering a nice set of programs. Other Board members agreed.

The wireless network has been extended to reach the playground area. The benches have been renovated by Troop 86 of Bloomingdale as part of one of their Scout's service project for his Eagle Scout badge.

The Friends made several donations to the Library.

The Library is doing another cooperative program with several libraries, this one aimed at children. It is a science program performed by Talewise.

On October 22, the Library is hosting a speaker from the Morris County School to Technology. She will be speaking on how to apply for one of their academies.
N. Moody motioned to accept the Director’s report. M. Hanisch seconded the motion. The Board approved the report unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**
The Treasurer gave the following report. She had also emailed the report to the Board before the meeting:

There is $9,896.35 in the New Jersey Cash Management Fund. The interest currently being earned in the cash fund is 0.14%.

The Lakeland checking account balance is $117,764.60 ($20,000 of this is from the Imandt Fund CD, and is earmarked for the 2021 budget.) This account currently earns 0.20% interest. Since it is better than the cash fund, the Treasurer recommended leaving the Library’s money there for now, but this can discuss this later.

The President and the Treasurer went to Lakeland on Sept 16, 2020, to put the Imandt Fund money into a new CD. The amount of the CD is $132,022.00 and it was put into a 13-month CD, which will mature on Oct. 16, 2021. The interest on the CD is 0.40%. The previous CD closed at $155,628.72 - as mentioned above, $20,000 is for the 2021 budget. The interest from this CD is allocated to for the 2020 budget.

The bills to be paid $27,371.55 to reimburse the Borough for payments it makes on the Library’s behalf. This amount includes the payment for the ice cream vendor at the Census event. The County will reimburse the Library for this. The check for the petty cash fund will be for $61.80

The Board reviewed the bills to pay shared via email prior to the meeting by the Director. H. Donargo motioned and M. Hanisch seconded the motion to pay the bills. The Board held a roll call vote on both motions and the motions were approved unanimously.

**Old Business**
There was no old business.

**New Business**
**Discussion of subscribing to the Brainfuse online help centers**
Brainfuse has offered discounts to MAIN libraries on the cost of subscribing to Brainfuse’s help centers (for anyone taking a class; for someone who is unemployed; and for veterans). The
Friends have agreed to pay half the cost of the subscription but the Board thought the Library should get others to help fund it because they did not think it was strictly a product the library traditionally supplies. The Board also wanted to see if other MAIN libraries were joining the offer. N. Moody suggested we table this until the next meeting.

**Public Comments**
There were no public comments.

**Adjournment**
H. Donargo motioned to adjourn the meeting. M. Hanisch seconded the motion. The Board voted to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Luis Rodriguez