

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BLOOMINGDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOVEMBER 24, 2020**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Hoyle at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following Trustees were present in person: Trustee Ben Hoyle.

Upon roll call, the following Trustee was present via Zoom: Trustees Lauren Dixon, Jeremy Heitkam, Dave Strutzel, and Natalie Valenti.

Also Present: Director Timothy Jarzemsky, Ryan Kelley (DLA Architects), Katie Richert (Youth Services Department Head) and Sean Luster (Computer Services Department Head).

Also Present on Zoom: Matt Lowe (DLA Architects), Steve Wright (DLA Architects), Christine Sporleder (Circ/Tech Department Head) and Abby Budzynski (Adult Services Department Head).

Absent: Trustee Alexandria Contes and Sharon Schade.

Also Absent: Beth Dover, PR/ Marketing Coordinator.

III. PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS

No public present.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The November Board Meeting Agenda was reviewed. Trustee Hoyle moved, and Trustee Strutzel seconded **the motion**, that the agenda of the November 11, 2020 Regular Library Board meeting be approved. The motion carried by voice vote.

V. NEW BUSINESS

**VISIONING SESSION RELATED TO POTENTIAL USAGE OF FROIO ESTATE
DONATION**

Introduction:

Everyone went around the room and Zoom to introduce themselves. Everyone was then instructed to go to www.menti.com and use the code 2428747 to give feedback and participate throughout the meeting. Director Jarzemsky gave an introduction about Dominic Froio. We are in possession of a very generous \$513,000 donation from the estate of the late Dominic Froio. This donation came to the library without specific instructions or limitations on how to expend the funds. Mr. Dominic Froio had a long tradition of supporting the Bloomingtondale Library, beginning in 1982, with donations he made in the name of his deceased daughter, Donna Beth Froio. The Library used these early

donations to create a special collection of materials in her name; this collection focuses on materials in other languages and cultural literacy. On 12/23/2018 Dominic Froio passed away. Director Jarzemsky was in attendance at his funeral and the library sent flowers. Director Jarzemsky wants us to keep in mind Dominic's legacy during our process.

Community, Cultural and Educational Goals for BPL:

The group's top 3 answers were: outdoor space, community engagement, and something for all ages.

What activities and functions should this project make possible? For what age group and demographic:

Top answers were outdoor space, outdoor Storytime, summer programming, garden, community gathering and an outdoor space for all ages. Trustee Hoyle expressed that he wishes we could extend the library outside the brick walls.

Map of the Library: Potential development indoor/outdoor areas:

9 options were presented.

1. West of main entrance/memorial area
2. Lower level entrance to children area
3. Loading dock
4. Teen area
5. Children area
6. YS Computer Lab
7. Quiet Study Room
8. Meeting Rooms
9. Other

Inspirational images:

Previous to the meeting, the board and staff were asked to input ideas. Those were presented and discussed.

Blue Sky Ideas:

Trustee Hoyle and Dixon shared a common thought of wanting to open up the front entrance and connect both spaces. They also mentioned the lack of windows. Sean Luster suggested outside seating and outside programming. The public can see us outside doing stuff and will encouraged to come join us. Director Jarzemsky wants outside paved seating to take coffee and magazine outside to enjoy, being outside yet inside. Trustee Heitkam liked Christine Sporleder idea of 24/7 lockers to pick up hold items. He suggested an outside reference desk. Trustee Hoyle also suggested a drive-thru per his wife's suggestion. He also thinks a roof top garden would be nice. Trustee Strutzel liked Christine Sporleder's idea of the outside lockers. He suggested a platform for astronomy at night or to use the roof in some way, so much un-used space up there. Trustee Dixon also suggested a permanent stage outside.

Highest hopes and deepest concerns:

Trustee Hoyle thinks there is a lot of potential and wants to spend the money wisely. Trustee Heitkam wants the community to know we put a lot of thought into how we spent

the money and have something large to show for it. Sean Luster wants us to think about the small vs big picture items. Katie Richert wants safety and sight lines being thought of at all times. It is important for staff to be able to see everyone, especially in Youth Services. She wants the spaces to age well, weather well and be a test of time. Trustee Dixon really wants a hammock between trees and/or comfortable lounge seating outside. Director Jarzemsky wants to increase relevance of library to community. Make sure our ideas are not just pandemic ideas. Make sure no matter what we do outside that we think about flooding and runoff of rain; the library had flooding issues in the past that were fixed.

Final thoughts and next steps:

The top final thoughts were; a welcoming space, address the front entrance, have an outdoor space and make sure the money is spent properly and is a good investment. The next steps are for DLA Architects to compile the highlights from this meeting. Then set up a meeting with Director Jarzemsky to discuss options. Director Jarzemsky gave some final words before the end of the meeting. He wants to make sure we recognize Dominic Froio in some way in every area that we update to honor him and his donation. He also wants to remember the staff and consider outside space for them.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Heitkam moved and Trustee Strutzel seconded **the motion** to adjourn the November 24, 2020 Special Library Board meeting at 7:12 p.m. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Minutes approved by:

Secretary

President

Date: _____

Minutes recorded by Jamie Schingoethe