

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS:** Board President Carol Keeley called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and reviewed directions for evacuation and/or safety concerns with all present.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carol Keeley
Mary Karban
Catherine Kreher
Helen Thompson
Mary Stiehl
Philip Silsby
Victoria Weygandt
Rhonda Ross

EXCUSED:

Mary Smith

Leander Spearman and Gail Eisenhart were also present.

- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

- III.** Rhonda Ross moved to accept minutes of the August 2016 Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Catherine Kreher. Minutes were approved.

- IV. PERSONNEL/LEGAL:** No report

- V. POLICY:** None

VI. PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

1. Mr. Spearman said the installation of new copy machines has begun following a short delay due to the vendor not having the proper interface. Installation should be complete within a week.
2. Mr. Spearman said the Belleville Inter-Faith Food Pantry has agreed to partner with the library as a site for the initial "Little Free Library" project. Little Free Libraries are small "birdhouse-like" structures placed throughout the community in areas where citizens normally have limited access to books. The intent is a book exchange: take a book, leave a book. Mr. Spearman will continue to approach other local organizations to partner with the library on this effort. A minimum of ten such "little libraries" is the goal of this project.
3. The "Human Library" project was explained by Mr. Spearman. This program was initiated in Denmark about 15 years ago. Rather than patrons checking out a book, they "check out" a person who then shares personal experiences with a group. "Human Books" are selected because of the unique stories/experiences they are willing to share (i.e. relevant current events, community issues, etc.) Mr. Spearman hopes to work with local community organizations such as Racial Harmony to bring this program to fruition.

- VII. FINANCE:** Motion was made by Mary Stiehl and seconded by Victoria Weygandt to pay the September 2016 claims. Regular claims were cited in the amount of \$11,173.84, prepaid claims \$22,109.81 and Petty Cash of \$157.12. Members were polled. Motion carried.

VIII. FUNDRAISING/PROMOTION/MARKETING:

After an absence of 18 months, Library Foundation members McBush and Fries agreed to meet with Mr. Spearman who hopes to re-ignite their fundraising efforts. Mr. Spearman explained to these gentlemen that “something must be done” to re-establish their work. He noted there are several grants he would like to apply for on behalf of the library with organizations such as AARP, Illinois Department of Services, Lowe’s, etc. However, without an active 501c(3) (non-profit) partnership status, the library does not have the proper credentials to apply. A discussion about appointing new Library Foundation members was held. Doctor Silsby asked why the Foundation had not taken these actions in the past? Mr. Spearman said this was “just not a priority” for the group. Further, he explained that new organization memberships could only be approved by the current membership. Mr. Spearman is trying to schedule another meeting with the remaining Foundation members to act on these matters.

IX. LIBRARY REPORTS: Enclosed with information packets. Helen Thompson asked for an explanation of “hot spots” and “Jet Packs” as mentioned in a supervisor report. Catherine Kreher inquired about filling staff vacancies and was told this is “in process.” Mr. Spearman noted that Anna Kimball will move from the Branch to the Main library’s Reference Department next week.

X. OLD BUSINESS: None

XI. CLOSED SESSION: None

XII. NEW BUSINESS:

XIII. ADJOURN: Motion was made by Rhonda Ross and seconded by Helen Thompson to adjourn. Motion carried. The August meeting of the Library Board of Directors adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Library Board of Directors will be held **Thursday**, October 13, 2016 at **6:30p.m.** at the Main library.

Submitted,
Gail Eisenhart
Administrative Assistant