

BEAUMONT LIBRARY DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

6:30 p.m. at the Library Annex - July
30, 2026 232 West Sixth Street,
Beaumont, CA. 92223

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER - President Coleman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL - M. Coleman, C. Carr, S. Aguilar-Martinez, S. Mitchell, K. Van
Valkenburg, L. Dickinson

ABSENT - M. Garcia

GUESTS - L. Cook, D. Roppelt

REPORT OF POSTING OF AGENDA - Agenda was posted 72 hours in advance.

1. CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting.

MOTION: (Coleman/Mitchell) to approve the Minutes as presented. (3-0-2)

2. ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

- A. Director's Report - The move to the new addition is now scheduled for August 6. (Ms. Roppelt and Ms. Aguilar-Martinez arrived at 6:33 p.m.) A "sneak peek" of the new building will take place at a "Books and Brews" event (sponsored by the Craft Lounge) on Friday, August 28. It will be limited to community leaders and others connected to the project. We will reopen to the public on September 1. RFPs have been issued for mural services in the children's restroom and for accounting support services. The library's server has been down for nine days but is now back up. In the interim, we have experienced a variety of service disruptions, including the inability of staff to process materials or to print, and the public being able to access e-materials. In order to prepare for staffing the new building and covering expanded hours, recruitment has begun for a few part-time positions. Plans call for interviews in mid-August with new employees expected to be in place by month's end.
- B. Financial Report - Reports were presented for the month of June and the final quarter of the fiscal year. Bond funds are declining because they are being used for construction expenses. Final revenue totals for the month of June will likely not be available for another month or so. The Zip Books program is not being funded by the State Library this fiscal year, but we are including a \$3,000 line item to continue the service locally.

- C. Activity Report - Checkouts were up for the month, and our digital resources continue to be popular. Library card registrations showed an increase compared to last year. The Director noted a promotion to clear the library shelves by asking the public to check out 50 materials at one time to qualify for being allowed into the reopening of the Library half an hour early on September 1. She provided a chart showing that daily checkouts more than doubled during the last week or so, because of the promotion, before the Library closed on July 3. The highest activity was driven by a patron's Instagram post that drew over 1,500 views!
- D. Public Service Report - Ms. Van Valkenburg reviewed "Raising Roofs and Readers" summer reading activities, including Fun Fridays performances, Storytimes in the Park, and the SOAR (Step Outside and Read) programs at the Wildlands Conservancy. In addition, she noted literacy statistics, our participation in Beaumont Nights with the Bookmobile, and other community outreach efforts.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. GRANT & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

The Director Emeritus reported that the Library had been awarded a literacy grant of \$47,582 for FY27. We did not receive separate ESL funding, but we will be allowed to use literacy funds for ESL purposes, which means tutoring can continue but conversation classes will be dropped. We were also awarded an LSTA Digital Literacy and Access grant in the amount of \$6,284 that will go toward the purchase of hotspots and training classes. Highlights of construction covered since the last meeting were the paving of the parking lot, finishing of the south entrance facade, completion of the public restrooms, finishing of the faux trees and "storytime steps" in the Children's area, carpeting and furnishings in various rooms, and the installation of shelving, windows, and doors. He also gave an overview of the Library Annex being vacated of book carts, shelving for the adult collection being set up in the new community room, and items being packed to vacate the Carnegie so it can be renovated. Included in the latter were the murals from the Federal Art Project which were removed from the wall and will be sent to an art restoration specialist before eventually being remounted. The final items mentioned were the Rotary Club Peace Pole installed that morning and the Library's new space at the Pass Area Business Hub that will be used for literacy tutoring, Librarian by Appointment sessions, and other purposes.

4. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT

Ms. Roppelt announced that the Friends storage was completely full and they will not be accepting further donations for the time being. Excess children's books were donated. The Friends annual meeting has been set for October 13 when election of officers will take place. The Friends by-

laws have been reviewed with no changes made, but consideration is being given to expanding the Board. She stated that she is working with Mr. Dickinson on a Library trivia game to add a fun component to the meeting of her Delta Kappa Gamma group. As far as the new Friends bookstore is concerned, plans are to open it on October 1 with Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday hours of 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday through Friday hours of 3 to 6 p.m., and Saturday hours of 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: (Carr/Aguilar-Martinez) to go into closed session at 7:30. (4-0-1)

The Director, Director Emeritus, and visitors left during the closed session.

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Government Code section 54957; Title: Director

The Director, Director Emeritus, and Ms. Cook returned to the building and the meeting returned to open session at 7:50 with no action taken.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. DIRECTOR CONTRACT

The Director requested approval of her contract for the upcoming year, to commence on August 1, 2026, and run through July 31, 2027.

MOTION: (Mitchell/Carr) to approve the contract extension of the Director through July 31, 2027. (4-0-1)

B. RFP - ACCOUNTING SUPPORT SERVICES

Due to personnel changes at our CPA firm, Eide Bailly, it was decided to seek bids from other firms so that we could maintain competitive rates. Six proposals were received, including a bid from Everline Services that was significantly lower than the others. Kristi Even, who retired from Eide Bailly after working with us for several years, is the principal of Everline Services, a part-time business she has started in retirement. Ms. Cook spoke positively about her work with Ms. Even. The Director asked that a contract with Everline Services be approved on a fixed-fee basis of no more than \$3,000 per month starting August 1, 2026.

MOTION: (Carr/Coleman) to approve a contract with Everline Services at a rate not to exceed \$3,000 per month beginning August 1, 2026. (4-0-1)

C. LIBRARY CARD SUPPLY PURCHASE

With the new logo and the new addition, new library cards are needed. The Director shared a picture of the new card design.

MOTION: (Carr/Aguilar-Martinez) to approve the purchase of new library cards at a cost not to exceed \$11,500. (4-0-1)

ADDED STARTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Van Valkenburg mentioned the Trustee registration period is ending soon and discussed the CSDA Conference happening next month.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

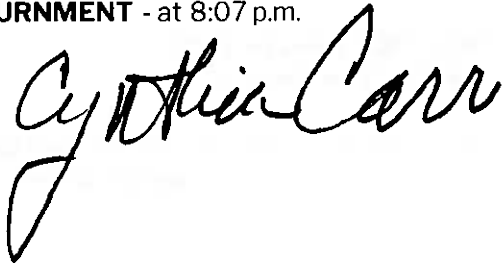
Ms. Carr stated that she would follow up on the Peace Pole's Arabic wording.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT - at 8:07 p.m.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Carr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DATE:

A handwritten date in black ink, "August 26, 2024", written in a cursive style.