

Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library Commission  
Martinsburg Berkeley County Public Library  
September Meeting Minutes  
September 28, 2023

Karen Greenfield, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:04PM.

Present: Karen Greenfield, Chair; Lakyn Ausherman, Vice Chair; Sara Douglass, Treasurer, Billie Grey, Secretary; Ian Gingold. Gretchen Fry, Librarian. Absent: None

A quorum being present, the items on the agenda were considered. Billie Grey is holding over until an appointment decision is made by the Berkeley County Council.

The Grey/Douglass motion proposing a slate of officers for the next year was nominated in August. Karen Greenfield, Chair; Sara Douglass, Vice Chair; Ian Gingold, Treasurer; Lakyn Ausherman, Secretary was taken from the table on a Douglass/Ausherman motion. Approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The minutes of the August 24, 2023 meeting were approved on a Grey/Gingold motion by unanimous voice vote.

Public comments: None

The Financial Report ending August 31, 2023 presented by Lynn Walker, Finance and Human Resource Manager, was accepted, pending audit, on a Douglass/Ausherman motion by unanimous voice vote.

The Director's Report was presented by Gretchen Fry and will be included in the minutes. Sara Douglass and Ian Gingold agreed to accompany Gretchen Fry to meet with the Board of Education to discuss the Levy.

Unfinished Business:

Concerning the pending HVAC project the Board approved a proposal to request new plans, which will show variants. Also specify that preventive maintenance be included in the plans.

On a Grey/Gingold motion directing the Venegas Contracting to proceed with roof replacement as quoted. In the event of a price variant of in excess of 10% a Special Board Meeting will be called, approved on a unanimous voice vote.

New Business:

Proposal to build an outdoor pavilion at North Berkeley Library presented by Cheryl Rodgers and Molly Brady was reviewed and determined to have inadequate detail for approval. The Board requested a revised proposal with additional details including budget for a project manager.

The Executive Session was delayed for consideration at a later meeting.

The Gingold/Ausherman motion to adjourn was approved by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Billie J. Grey, Secretary

## Directors Report September 2023

HBM is in the final stages of the Master Facilities Plan for the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library System and is planning to present the plan virtually at the October Board Meeting.

I met virtually with representatives of WV Reads and WV Deli to discuss the pros and cons of merging into one statewide eBook (Overdrive/Libby) consortium. The State of West Virginia currently has three Overdrive/Libby Consortia: Listen Eastern West Virginia, West Virginia READS, and WV DELI. Martinsburg- Berkeley County Public Library manages Listen Eastern West Virginia. Listen Eastern West Virginia is the smallest Consortium in the state, encompassing Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Mineral, Hardy, and Grant, and Pendleton Counties.

I attended (and plan to continue to attend) monthly meetings with Martinsburg business owners and the new Martinsburg Police Chief, E. Gibbons, to talk about issues related to safety and policing in downtown Martinsburg.

Cabell County Public library filed a petition on September 14 in Cabell Circuit Court against the Cabell County School Board. According to a news article in the "West Virginia Record" the petition argues that the Cabell County situation is different than Kanawha because "the Kanawha matter was a regular levy instead of an excess levy passed by voters." Also "the school board doesn't have the authority to determine if the special legislative acts are unconstitutional."

The Martinsburg-Berkeley County Library will be holding it's annual staff development day for library staff and for the staff of affiliate libraries in Jefferson and Morgan Counties on October 9th.

### **Library Programs:**

Friends of the Hedgesville Library hosted a panel discussion on the history and events that shaped the Hedgesville Community on September 23rd.

20 people attended the first Cryptid Corner program at North Berkeley Library. This monthly program features books and activities for elementary kids centered on legends and myths. North Berkeley Library is starting a Lego club next month.

### **Upcoming:**

The Martinsburg Library is offering new programs and activities for adults. On October 12th the library is starting a monthly Anime Manga club for patrons who are 18 and older. Martinsburg will hold A Ghost Painting Party on October 12th, and a Twilight Themed Party on November 2nd. Through a grant from the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History, Shepherd University is offering a free eight week art course for adults at the Martinsburg Library.

October 28th - The Martinsburg Library will be participating in Main Street Martinsburg's 4-State Food Truck Festival. The library will host kid-friendly community groups and activities on the plaza. The library will have a Haunted House in the Teen Room.

October 29th- Musselman- South Berkeley Community Library will be holding a Family Game Night.