LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Frank Pisano
PRESIDENT
Jennifer Wheeler
VICE PRESIDENT
Karen Rock
SECRETARY

Melissa Mark
Danielle Rumple
James W. Suhay
Rebekah Craft
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

LEARN. CONNECT. DISCOVER.
MISSION
The Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham, Michigan enriches lives by providing opportunities and resources for everyone to learn, connect, and discover.

VISION
The Baldwin Public Library will be an essential part of the community and the first choice for access to cultural, recreational, and learning opportunities.

CORE VALUES
WE ARE COMMITTED TO:
• Intellectual Freedom
• Equitable and Inclusive Access
• Education and Lifelong Learning
• Innovation

• Welcoming Environment
• Integrity
• Collaboration
• Commitment to Excellence

ADOPTED APRIL 2022
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AGENDA
Baldwin Public Library Board Meeting
Monday, September 19, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Rotary Tribute & Donor Rooms

The City continues to recommend the public wear masks while attending City meetings per CDC guidelines. The cases of COVID-19 are increasing in the area. All City employees, commissioners, and board members must wear a mask while indoors when 6-feet of social distancing cannot be maintained. This is to ensure the continuity of government is not affected by an exposure to COVID-19 that can be prevented by wearing a mask.

Agenda
The full Board packet is available online at www.baldwinlib.org on the Friday preceding the meeting.
This is an open meeting. All members of the public are invited to attend.

Call to order, pledge of allegiance, reading of the Library’s mission statement, and establishment of a quorum.

The Library Board values public meetings and welcomes your comments on Library issues, but cannot debate items not on the agenda. The Board respectfully asks that comments be made as concisely as possible, when a motion has been made, or in the general public comment portion of the meeting. The maximum time for individual speakers should not exceed two minutes.

I. Consent Agenda
All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and approved by a roll call vote. There will be no discussion of these items unless a Board member or a citizen so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered as the last item under new business.

A. Approval of August 15, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes  p. 9
B. Approval of August 2022 vendor payments in the amount of $191,679.04, including payments in excess of $6,000.  p. 14
C. Approval of total expenses in the amount of $409,936.16.  p. 20

II. Board Reports and Special Announcements
A. President’s report  p. 40
B. Board comments
C. Staff anniversaries (Jennifer Wheeler)  p. 74
D. Upcoming events of interest (Jaclyn Miller)
III. Board Committee Reports
   A. Finance – Danielle Rumple
   B. Outreach – Danielle Rumple
   C. Building – The next meeting is scheduled for September 22 at 9:00 a.m. to review 50% completion of Phase 3 Construction Documents
   D. Personnel – The next meeting is scheduled for September 28 at 9:00 a.m. to review Employee Handbook revisions
   E. Policy – The next meeting is scheduled for October 13 at 10:30 a.m. for the yearly review of the Naming Rights Policy, Gift and Donation Policy, Code of Conduct, Privacy Policy, Hours of Service Policy, Library Displays Policy, Group Study Rooms Policy, Public Comment Policy, and Unattended Children Policy

IV. Library Report – Rebekah Craft and Jaclyn Miller

V. Liaisons
   A. Report from Friends of the Baldwin Public Library (Ryndee Carney)
   B. Beverly Hills (Tracy Kecskemeti, Beverly Hills Village Council)
   C. Bloomfield Hills (Susan McCarthy, Bloomfield Hills City Commission)
   D. Bingham Farms (Larry Freedman, Bingham Farms Village Council)

VI. New & Miscellaneous Business

VII. Unfinished Business
   A. Baldwin Public Library Logo Redesign
   B. Janitorial Services
   C. Phase 3 Update and design decisions

VIII. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

IX. Information Only
   A. Upcoming events of interest
   B. *Birmingham Eccentric*, “Famed sculptor Fredericks left mark across Michigan”
C. *Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle*, “Extensive virtual tour of Birmingham is in progress”  p. 78
D. Thank you letter, RE: Bingham Farms Family Fest  p. 79
E. *The Villager*, Village of Beverly Hills Newsletter, “Baldwin Public Library”  p. 80
F. *Downtown News Magazine*, “Charter amendment to update purchase procedures”  p. 81
G. *Downtown News Magazine*, “Residents can meet with city commissioners”  p. 82
H. *Readers Digest*, “As Book Banning Increases, Librarians Are Banding Together to Fight Back”  p. 83
J. *The Post and Courier*, “Stevens: Our libraries are at risk: This is no laughing matter.”  p. 95
K. *Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle*, “Birmingham seeks community input for strategic planning”  p. 98

X. General Public Comment Period
The Library Board values public meetings and welcomes your comments on Library issues, but cannot debate items not on the agenda. The Board respectfully asks that comments be made as concisely as possible, when a motion has been made, or in the general public comment portion of the meeting. The maximum time for individual speakers should not exceed two minutes.

XI. Adjournment
The next regular meeting of the Library Board will be on Monday, October 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

*Motion: To adjourn the September 19, 2022 Board Meeting.*
Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the Library at the number (248) 647-1700 or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta sesión pública deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la biblioteca en el número (248) 647-1700 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).
Call to Order and Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Pisano at 7:30 p.m.

Library Board present: Melissa Mark, Frank Pisano, Karen Rock, Danielle Rumple, Jim Suhay, and Jennifer Wheeler.

Absent and excused: None.

Library Staff present: Rebekah Craft, Director, Jaclyn Miller, Associate Director, and Robert Stratton, Administrative Assistant.

Friends of the Library liaison present: Michelle Hollo.

Contract community representatives present: None.

Members of the public present: None.

Rumple read aloud the Library’s Mission Statement.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance following establishment of quorum.

1. **Consent Agenda:**

   **Motion to approve the consent agenda.**

   1st Mark
   2nd Rumple

   A roll call vote was taken.
   Nays: None.
   Absent and excused: None.
   The motion was approved unanimously.

2. **Board Reports and Special Announcements:**

   **President’s report:** Pisano looks forward to reopening the Library soon after a recent flooding of the Youth Room and Circulation office space, and wishes everyone well for the upcoming school year.

   **Board comments:** Rock shared that she listened to a program sponsored by the American Library Association about policy making and equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

   **Staff Anniversaries:** Wheeler recognized the following staff anniversaries: Paul Gillin (9 years of service), Mick Howey (5 years), Tony Lowe (17 years), Kathleen McBroom (5 years), Terry Meyer (10 years), Daniel Patton (5 years), Kristen Tait (21 years), and Nick Tupper (4 years).

   **Upcoming events of interest:** Miller reported upcoming events at the Library, full details of which are on pages 96-97 of the August Board packet.

3. **Board Committee Reports**
**Finance Committee:**

The Finance Committee cancelled their planned meeting on August 8 due to the Library’s flood restoration and closure. Craft presented the August 2022 Financial Committee Update found on page 16 of the August Board packet.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will take place on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Delos Board Room.

**Building Committee:**

Suhay reported that the Building Committee met on July 14. Present were Mark, Suhay, Craft, Miller, and Kristen Tait, with Steven Schneemann and Diane Schurg from Merritt Cieslak Design (MCD). Full minutes from this meeting are on pages 20-23 of the August Board packet. These notes were summarized during the July Board meeting, but unavailable in full at the time.

The next meeting of the Building Committee will take place in September to review the 50% completion status of the design development process with MCD.

Following a discussion from the July Board meeting about adding a shade structure to the front patio area, Craft met virtually with MCD on August 8 to discuss options. MCD shared a rendering for a 30’ x 40’ trellis structure concept along with considerations, were this to be pursued, which can be found on pages 24-25 of the August Board packet. Mark preferred keeping the proposed trees instead of this additional structure. Rumple would also rather have trees and disliked that this shade structure would block visibility to the Youth Room. Pisano asked Craft if an alternative shade canopy structure he suggested was discussed. Craft noted that MCD said that particular system would not give more utility than umbrellas, which can be moved. Suhay expressed his desire to move on from this discussion, as it is already late in the development process.

**Library Report:**

Craft and Miller presented highlights from the Library Report. Full details can be found on pages 27-39 of the August Board packet.

Craft reported that lighting was installed in the Legacy Room on August 1 and 2. This room will be temporarily repurposed as a Youth Room materials space while flooding damage is resolved.

On the night of August 4-5, a sink backed up due to heavy rains and flooded large areas of the Youth Room and first floor office space. Belfor began water extraction and dehumidification of the area that same night. Belfor returned on Thursday, August 11 to remove affected carpeting and the bottom three feet of drywall. They will install new drywall and paint over damaged areas next week. The Library closed to the public on August 5 and began curbside service on August 13. Circulation and Youth Services staff are working in the Grand Hall to process ILL, curbside materials, and program materials. Several room rentals were canceled, and some future room rentals must be relocated to alternative rooms to allow staff to move out of the Grand Hall.

Donna Smith, Youth Services Librarian, will retire as of August 17. She worked at Baldwin for 19 years. Youth Services Librarian candidates will begin to be interviewed next week.

Miller noted that a full report on Summer Reading 2022 will be provided to the Board next month.
A glass panel in the Youth Room was broken on July 20 by an unidentified object. The panel was replaced on August 8. The cost of replacing this panel was around $2,500.

The Friends of the Library earned around $1,100 from their pop-up sale on July 23, and earned $1,200 from the lobby sale tables through the month.

Miller attended the annual TLN membership meeting and picnic at Lakeshore Park in Novi on July 22. The meeting covered major announcements and renovation updates from associated lending libraries.

Wheeler asked if there was a timeline for carpet replacement, and if the carpet will look the same. Craft responded that the replacement carpet will be identical, and she will receive a timeline report from the vendor this week.

Craft received a quote for carpet replacement and furniture moving from Library Design Associates and sent Board members a suggested motion prior to this meeting for approval. The quote total is $56,225, and would be withdrawn from the City’s Risk Management Fund, and an insurance claim will be filed.

**Motion to approve a payment of $56,225 to Library Design Associates for moving and carpet installation fees to repair the Youth Room and staff offices, to be paid out of the City of Birmingham’s risk management fund.**

1st Suhay
2nd Wheeler
A roll call vote was taken.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: None.
The motion was approved unanimously.

5. **Liaisons**

Friends: There was no report.

Beverly Hills: There was no report.

Bloomfield Hills: There was no report.

Bingham Farms: There was no report.

6. **New & Miscellaneous Business:**

**Janitorial Services:**

The proposed RFP for janitorial services, found on pages 43-67 of the August Board packet, would be sent out on August 16 and due September 14. The Library Board would then decide on a bidder at the September 19 Board meeting. The current service contract with DM Burr expires in eight months, and as they have raised their hourly rates, Craft recommends comparing competitor rates in the area. Depending on the bids received, the Library and Board can decide if it is more cost effective to handle cleaning services internally.

**Motion to approve the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for janitorial services at the Baldwin Public Library.**
A roll call vote was taken.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: None.
The motion was approved unanimously.

Construction Manager:

MCD compiled an RFP document for hiring a construction manager, which was emailed to Board members. The RFP has the condition of review by the Building Committee, Library staff, and City Commission for final approval. Craft recommends that the Board make a motion to approve the issuance of this RFP.

Suhay expressed his concern that the current RFP does not cite an exact amount to define the guaranteed maximum price. Craft responded that the guaranteed maximum price is based on a quote from Rewold & Sons with a total cost of $3.526 million.

Pisano clarified to the Board that once they give their approval for issuance, the City and City attorney would give final review of the RFP and make needed adjustments.

Motion to approve the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the construction manager for the proposed expansion and renovation of the Front Entrance and Circulation Area of the Baldwin Public Library conditioned on review and approval by the City Commission.

1st Suhay
2nd Mark
A roll call vote was taken.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: None.
The motion was approved unanimously.

2023 Calendar:

The proposed 2023 calendar is found on page 70 of the August Board packet. It is similar to the 2022 calendar, but includes additional closures on Juneteenth (June 19), Veteran’s Day (November 11), the day after Thanksgiving (November 24), the day after Christmas (December 26), and New Year’s Eve (December 31), based on recommendations from the Board President.

Suhay expressed unease at increasing the number of closure days from 15 to 20. He pointed out that the Library has been the dedicated location for Veteran’s Day activities, which connect with the annual commemorative event held in Shain Park. There was general agreement that the Library should remain open on Veteran’s Day to accommodate this event. Pisano suggested remaining open December 26 for those patrons who wish to visit the Library while they are home for the holiday. The Board generally agreed to close for Juneteenth (June 19), the day after Thanksgiving (November 24), and New Year’s Eve (December 31).

Motion to approve the 2023 Library calendar as found on page 70 of the August 2022 Board Packet, including closures on June 19, November 24, and December 31, but will remain open on Veteran’s Day and December 26.

1st Mark
2nd Rumple
A roll call vote was taken.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: None.
The motion was approved unanimously.

7. **Unfinished Business:**

**Baldwin Public Library Logo Redesign:**

Graphic Designer Michelle Hollo presented seven logo redesigns based on feedback from the July Board meeting. This presentation can be found on pages 72-94 of the August Board packet.

The Board decided to gather input from staff and public input on designs 1, 2, and 3 without any further changes.

8. **Items Removed from Consent Agenda:** None.

9. **Information Only:** See pages 95-110 of the August 2022 Board packet.

10. **General Public Comment Period:** None.

11. **Adjournment:**

   **Motion to adjourn the meeting.**
   1st Rumph
   2nd Mark
   Nays: None.
   Absent and excused: None.
   The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in the Rotary Tribute and Donor Room.
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<td><strong>Total:</strong> 191,679.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I hereby certify that each of the above invoices are true and correct.

______________, 20____
Executive Library Director

Allowance of Vouchers

The Library Board of Directors of the Baldwin Public Library has examined the claims listed on the foregoing Register of claims and except for claims not allowed as shown on the Register such claims are hereby approved and dated in accordance with MCL 397.210a and the Birmingham City Charter.

Secretary of the Baldwin Public Library Board
BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee
Outreach Committee
September 2022 Finance Committee Report

The Baldwin Public Library Board’s Finance Committee met on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Delos Board Room. Present were Frank Pisano, Danielle Rumple, Rebekah Craft, and Jaclyn Miller

- Craft reported on the FY 2021-22 budget updates. The noteworthy adjustments relate to investment income loss, and County & State Aid payments.
- Craft gave an update on the FY 2022-23 budget. After two months, the budget is tracking well.
  - Large payments were issued to Midwest Tape, Overdrive and Ingram for library materials; and to Merritt Cieslak Design for Phase 3 architectural services, Presidio for networking services, OCLC for cataloging software and our EZproxy authentication software, which makes it possible for BPL cardholders to use electronic resources remotely, and DTE Energy.
  - Utilities are expected to be higher this year, compared to last.
- Miller discussed expenditures with funds from the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library. The Friends collected $615 in August at the in-lobby book sale, which is down from previous months, but expected with the library closure due to water damage.
- Pisano reported that he attended a meeting of the Investment Committee. There are no changes from the consultants; at this time, investments are in line with trends.
- The committee reviewed the trust investment reports, and will investigate a more accurate way to compare and report our investments each month.
- Craft will invite Jim Cummins from Raymond James to attend an upcoming Board meeting, possibly November 2022.
- The next meeting of the Finance Committee will take place on Monday, October 10, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Delos Board Room.
FINANCIAL REPORT: August 2022

This report references the Revenue and Expense Report 2022-23, found on the following page. At 16.67% of the way through fiscal year 2022-2023, the Library has spent 16.8% of its budget and received 0.1% of its revenue. By this point of the year, the Library was budgeted to have spent 16.7% of its budget and to have received 16.7% of its revenue.

Two pay periods were recorded in August.

Vendor payments in excess of $6,000:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merritt Cieslak Design PLC (Phase Three Architectural Services)</td>
<td>$89,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingram Library Services (Print Materials)</td>
<td>$21,336.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overdrive (Electronic Materials)</td>
<td>$15,106.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest Tape (Audio Visual Materials)</td>
<td>$10,111.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTE Energy</td>
<td>$8,505.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCLC (CatExpress and EZProxy)</td>
<td>$7,887.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidio Networked Solutions (Consmart Renewal)</td>
<td>$6,261.50</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Total vendor payments in excess of $6,000 $158,308.70
Balance of vendor payments less than $6,000 $33,370.34

Total vendor payments $191,679.04

City of Birmingham allocations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Period Ending 08/06/22</td>
<td>$109,216.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Period Ending 08/20/22</td>
<td>$89,079.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Health Care Payroll Deduction 08/20/22</td>
<td>$(694.96)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Past Retirement Health Care Cost (acct 711.0004)</td>
<td>$3,469.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retirement Cost (acct 711.0010)</td>
<td>$7,744.58</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Payroll $208,814.42

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BS&amp;A Software Charge (acct 811.0000 estimate)</td>
<td>$248.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Services (acct. 813.0000 estimate)</td>
<td>$8,740.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MML Insurance Premium (acct. 960.0400 estimate)</td>
<td>$466.67</td>
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</table>

Total City of Birmingham allocations $218,270.11

Reconciling adjustments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Fine Refunds</td>
<td>$(12.99)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Recon Adjustments $(12.99)

Total expenses for the month $409,936.16
## Baldwin Public Library
### Revenue and Expense Report 2022-23
#### August 2022

| REVENUES                  | Approved 2022-2023 Budget | Current Month Budget August 2022 | Current Month Actual August 2022 | Variance For Month | Y-T-D Budget 2022-2023 | Y-T-D Actual 2022-2023 | Variance For Y-T-D | % Received/Spent | Prior year Y-T-D 2021-2022 | % Received/Spent |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|}
| TAXES                     | $3,869,880                | $322,490                        | $0                              | ($322,490)         | $644,980               | $0                     | ($644,980)         | 0.0%           | $3,678,280               | 100.0%         |
| PROVISION FOR TAX LOSS    | ($15,000)                 | ($1,250)                        | $0                              | $1,250             | ($2,500)               | $0                     | $2,500             | 0.0%           | ($1,146)                 | 7.6%           |
| COUNTY AND STATE REVENUE  | $106,000                  | $8,833                          | $0                              | ($8,833)           | $17,667               | $0                     | ($17,667)          | 0.0%           | $0                       | 0.0%           |
| GRANTS                    | $0                        | $0                              | $0                              | $0                  | $0                     | $0                     | 100.0%             | $0             | $0                       | 0.0%           |
| COMMUNITY CONTRACTS       | $992,390                  | $82,699                         | $0                              | ($82,699)          | $165,398              | $0                     | ($165,398)         | 0.0%           | $30,416                  | 3.1%           |
| PATRON USE REVENUE        | $27,000                   | $2,250                          | $842                            | ($1,408)           | $4,500                 | $4,282                 | ($218)             | 15.9%          | $3,247                   | 15.2%          |
| INVESTMENT INCOME         | $30,000                   | $2,500                          | $0                              | ($2,500)           | $5,000                 | $0                     | ($5,000)           | 0.0%           | $1,116                   | 3.7%           |
| **TOTAL REVENUE**         | **$5,010,270**            | **$417,523**                    | **$842**                        | **($416,680)**     | **$835,045**           | **$4,282**            | **($830,763)**     | 0.1%           | **$3,711,913**           | **77.6%**      |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL SERVICES</td>
<td>$2,846,220</td>
<td>$237,185</td>
<td>$208,814</td>
<td>($28,371)</td>
<td>$474,370</td>
<td>$407,052</td>
<td>($67,318)</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>$344,476</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUPPLIES</td>
<td>$143,000</td>
<td>$11,917</td>
<td>$2,903</td>
<td>($9,014)</td>
<td>$23,833</td>
<td>$30,886</td>
<td>$7,052</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>$21,018</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTRACTED SERVICES</td>
<td>$499,590</td>
<td>$41,633</td>
<td>$114,389</td>
<td>$72,756</td>
<td>$85,265</td>
<td>$150,923</td>
<td>$67,658</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
<td>$43,678</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TECHNOLOGY &amp; MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>$139,000</td>
<td>$11,583</td>
<td>$12,598</td>
<td>$1,015</td>
<td>$23,167</td>
<td>$72,732</td>
<td>$49,566</td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>$50,100</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTILITIES</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>$8,750</td>
<td>$9,831</td>
<td>$1,081</td>
<td>$17,500</td>
<td>$20,471</td>
<td>$2,971</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>$20,591</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER CHARGES</td>
<td>$81,480</td>
<td>$6,790</td>
<td>$6,920</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td>$13,580</td>
<td>$17,653</td>
<td>$4,073</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>$12,889</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS &amp; FURNISHING</td>
<td>$67,300</td>
<td>$5,608</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>($5,608)</td>
<td>$11,217</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>($11,217)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>$1,508</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLECTIONS</td>
<td>$649,750</td>
<td>$54,146</td>
<td>$54,481</td>
<td>$335</td>
<td>$108,292</td>
<td>$112,161</td>
<td>$3,870</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>$89,508</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,531,340</strong></td>
<td><strong>$377,612</strong></td>
<td><strong>$409,936</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,324</strong></td>
<td><strong>$755,223</strong></td>
<td><strong>$760,244</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,021</strong></td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td><strong>$583,768</strong></td>
<td><strong>13.9%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VARIANCE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VARIANCE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$478,930</strong></td>
<td><strong>$39,911</strong></td>
<td><strong>($409,094)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($440,005)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$79,822</strong></td>
<td><strong>($755,962)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($835,784)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FUND BALANCE-BEGINNING OF YEAR**

$1,868,577.90

**FUND BALANCE-CURRENT**

$1,112,615.95

The fund balance should be not less than 25% of annual operating expenditures and not more than 35% of annual expenditures, except when the Library is building a fund balance in support of specific non-recurring projects.

Note: Of the $3,869,880 in Birmingham tax revenue, $3,197,047 is for operating expenses, and $672,833 is for funding the Phase 3 expansion and renovation.
## BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
### REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT 2021-22
#### June 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES</th>
<th>Approved 2021-2022</th>
<th>Current Month Budget June 2022</th>
<th>Current Month Actual June 2022</th>
<th>Variance For Month</th>
<th>Y-T-D Budget 2021-2022</th>
<th>Y-T-D Actual 2021-2022</th>
<th>Variance For Y-T-D</th>
<th>% Received/Spent</th>
<th>Prior year Y-T-D 2020-2021</th>
<th>% Received/Spent Prior Y-T-D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TAXES</strong></td>
<td>$3,678,280</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$(183)</td>
<td>($183)</td>
<td>$3,678,280</td>
<td>$(183)</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>$3,559,737</td>
<td>100.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROVISION FOR TAX LOSS</strong></td>
<td>($15,000)</td>
<td>$(1,250)</td>
<td>$(6,126)</td>
<td>$(4,876)</td>
<td>($15,000)</td>
<td>$(7,004)</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>$(8,132)</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COUNTY AND STATE REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$8,333</td>
<td>$75,549</td>
<td>$67,215</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$101,368</td>
<td>101.4%</td>
<td>$100,098</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRANTS</strong></td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,200</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>$3,200</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMMUNITY CONTRACTS</strong></td>
<td>$965,710</td>
<td>$80,476</td>
<td>$80,829</td>
<td>$(353)</td>
<td>$965,710</td>
<td>$965,579</td>
<td>$(1,131)</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>$983,889</td>
<td>104.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PATRON USE REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$21,400</td>
<td>$1,783</td>
<td>$3,125</td>
<td>$(1,342)</td>
<td>$21,400</td>
<td>$32,254</td>
<td>150.7%</td>
<td>$6,713</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INVESTMENT INCOME</strong></td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$(98,996)</td>
<td>$(101,496)</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$(80,958)</td>
<td>$(110,958)</td>
<td>269.9%</td>
<td>$927</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$4,780,390</td>
<td>$91,843</td>
<td>$54,198</td>
<td>$(37,645)</td>
<td>$4,780,390</td>
<td>$(87,854)</td>
<td>99.7%</td>
<td>$4,673,001</td>
<td>99.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| EXPENSES                                       |                    |                                |                                |                    |                       |                       |                    |                  |                           |                          |
| **PERSONNEL SERVICES**                        | $2,672,390         | $222,699                       | $436,993                       | $214,294           | $2,672,390             | $2,618,978             | $(53,412)          | 98.0% | $2,481,213                 | 97.5%                    |
| **SUPPLIES**                                  | $119,500           | $9,958                         | $6,803                         | $(3,155)           | $119,500               | $115,615               | $(3,885)           | 96.7% | $133,236                  | 124.5%                   |
| **CONTRACTED SERVICES**                       | $383,830           | $31,986                        | $59,853                        | $27,867            | $383,830               | $346,608               | $(37,222)          | 90.3% | $266,690                  | 90.9%                    |
| **TECHNOLOGY & MAINTENANCE**                  | $149,780           | $12,482                        | $2,158                         | $(10,323)          | $149,780               | $102,681               | $(47,099)          | 68.6% | $140,830                  | 100.6%                   |
| **UTILITIES**                                 | $96,000            | $8,000                         | $9,719                         | $1,719             | $96,000                | $95,207                | $(793)             | 99.2% | $87,944                   | 91.6%                    |
| **OTHER CHARGES**                             | $82,260            | $6,855                         | $6,694                         | $(161)             | $82,260                | $70,571                | $(11,689)          | 85.8% | $19,357                   | 23.2%                    |
| **BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS & FURNISHING**        | $64,300            | $5,358                         | $29,415                        | $24,056            | $64,300                | $46,379                | $(17,921)          | 72.1% | $651,479                  | 129.5%                   |
| **COLLECTIONS**                               | $640,700           | $53,392                        | $78,180                        | $24,788            | $640,700               | $60,700                | $(2,108)           | 99.7% | $624,121                  | 95.0%                    |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES**                            | $4,208,760         | $350,730                       | $629,816                       | $279,086           | $4,208,760             | $4,034,630             | $(174,130)         | 95.9% | $4,404,871                 | 99.5%                    |
| **VARIANCE**                                  | $571,630           | $(258,888)                     | $(575,618)                     | $(316,730)         | $571,630               | $(657,906)             | $(86,276)          | 100.0% |                           |                          |

### FUND BALANCE-BEGINNING OF YEAR
- $1,210,626.64

### FUND BALANCE-CURRENT
- $1,868,532.90

The fund balance should be not less than 25% of annual operating expenditures and not more than 35% of annual expenditures, except when the Library is building a fund balance in support of specific non-recurring projects.

Note: Of the $3,678,280 in Birmingham tax revenue, $3,034,942 is for operating expenses, and $628,338 is for funding the Phase 3 expansion and renovation.
August 2022 Outreach Committee Agenda

The Baldwin Public Library Board Outreach Committee met on Thursday, August 25 at 4:30pm in the Delos Board Room. Present were Rebekah Craft, Jaclyn Miller, Danielle Rumple and Missy Mark.

● Review results of initial Outreach visits to community organizations
  ○ determine action items
    ■ Holiday Inn, no response
    ■ Lighthouse - Emily - fund development mgr
    - Bookshelf, for new emergency housing facility
    - Supply drives - food, school supplies, clothes
    ■ Lutheran Church, no response yet; will reconnect in September
    ■ All Seasons - technology instruction/mobile lab and Idea Lab
    ■ Baldwin House
      - Idea Lab Tour
      - Mobile Lab
      - Questions regarding Large Print for their book club
      - How can residents who live at BH get a library card, if they don’t have any paperwork?
        ○ Policy consideration?

● Suggested additions to include Idea Lab tours and presentations
  ● Idea Lab Tour – receive a tour for up to 6 people from your organization, of the Library makerspace, and learn about how you could benefit from the resources available.
    ○ Availability – up to twice per year, once every six months
    ○ Time – 45 minutes
  ● Idea Lab Zoom Program – meet on Zoom with up to 100 people from your organization, for a casual tour of the Idea Lab, or a more in depth discussion of up to 3 pieces of equipment and how they can work for your organization.
    ○ Availability – up to twice per year, once every six months
    ○ Time – 45 minutes

● New Business
  ○ Rebekah will do a book discussion at First Presbyterian, one time TBD
  ○ Form for services, include all materials on Personalized Checkout Session, not just books
  ○ Missy will reach out to Cedarbrook, Chamber of Commerce, First Presbyterian Church
  ○ Danielle will reach out to Great Start, St James Preschool, Oakland Community College

The next meeting will be held at a date TBD.
LIBRARY REPORT

Statistical Dashboard
Programs & Services
Facility
Diversity & Equity
Community Outreach & Partnerships
Personnel & Organization
Financial
Expenditures from FOBPL Donations
# August 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financials</th>
<th>Current Month</th>
<th>This month last year</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>FY 22-23 Q1 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>$842</td>
<td>$3,694,262</td>
<td>$4,282</td>
<td>$3,711,778</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>$409,936</td>
<td>$289,428</td>
<td>$760,244</td>
<td>$539,252</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circulation</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circ (Charges &amp; Renewals)</td>
<td>40,985</td>
<td>53,234</td>
<td>91.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Check Usage</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Circ by Residents*</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
<td>91.8%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Circ by Non-Residents</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interlibrary Loans</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Items borrowed</td>
<td>1,186</td>
<td>859</td>
<td>38.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items loaned</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>-6.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technology Usage</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Database Sessions</td>
<td>4,507</td>
<td>2,291</td>
<td>195.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downloadable Content</td>
<td>13,037</td>
<td>11,712</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Computer Usage</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Sessions</td>
<td>4,052</td>
<td>4,243</td>
<td>-4.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Attendance</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Attendance for Adults</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>65.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Programs for Adults</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>-28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Attendance for Teens</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>-54.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Programs for Teens</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Attendance for Youth</td>
<td>945</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>67.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Programs for Youth</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Classes</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Computer Programs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Video Views</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>-54.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idea Lab Visits</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Program Attendance</td>
<td>1,367</td>
<td>1,180</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total # of Programs</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>-9.8%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outreach Attendance</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Attendance</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>-20.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Outreach Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-62.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gate Count</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gate Count</td>
<td>11,239</td>
<td>14,790</td>
<td>-24.0%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Media</th>
<th>New Users</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website Hits/Pageviews</td>
<td>26,032</td>
<td>24,100</td>
<td>49,325</td>
<td>44,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-Newsletter Subscribers**</td>
<td>-22</td>
<td>1428</td>
<td>11252</td>
<td>12876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook Page Likes</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2820</td>
<td>2647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter Followers</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1352</td>
<td>1319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instagram Followers</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2047</td>
<td>1897</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*Residents include people who live, work, or own property in our service area of Birmingham, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, and the City of Bloomfield Hills

**Newsletter provider changed in Nov 2021; duplicate email addresses were eliminated
Strategic Plan Status Report

Comparisons of actual results to projections are made on a quarterly basis—in the months of October, January, April and July. The Strategic Plan Action Plan updates will be presented to the Library Board in the same meetings.

Programs & Services

Strategic goal: Adapt programs and services to meet the needs of the changing population

COVID-19 Response

Library Staff members continue to follow city protocols, quarantining as breakthrough cases continue and testing as exposures require. Staff clean workspaces between shifts, and maintain physical distances of 6 feet while in the Library. Staff are still required to wear masks in public areas of the building, and board members are asked to wear masks during public meetings. Birmingham Fire Chief Paul Wells recommended the use and provided a supply of N-95 masks for staff.

Despite improved transmission rates in Oakland County, we have had 4 more staff members test positive for COVID-19 since August 17. They were required to isolate at home for a period of 7 days before returning to work.

Summer Reading Final Reports

Youth Summer Reading 2022

This past summer, BPL’s Youth Services department hosted a successful Summer Reading Program for children from birth through those entering 6th grade with a total of 518 registered readers. This summer’s theme was “Oceans of Possibilities”. The majority of participants resided within Baldwin’s four communities, but residents from other communities participated as well. The breakdown of participants by community is shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield Hills</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bingham Farms</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield Township</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Oak</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southfield</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bloomfield</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Youth Services staff were able to visit every elementary school in the Birmingham School District this year for Summer Reading outreach visits. Some visits were virtual and some were in person but at each visit, the students and teachers heard about our Summer Reading events as well as the Summer Reading Challenge. This year, participants earned one point for every hour they read and for every activity they completed. They earned a free book at ten points and at twenty points. They also earned tickets into the Grand Prize drawing for every five points they earned. Activities included playing in sand or singing for the Read to Me age group and reading someone else’s favorite book and creating a treasure map for Grades 1 to 6. Themed Grand Prize baskets this year included a Day at the Beach, Science Fun, and Little Artist.
We had 143 children finish the program this year and we gave away 382 prize books, which is almost double last year’s participation! The books and grand prizes are sponsored by the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library. Participants read for 207,570 minutes this summer. That’s more than 144 days of reading in eight weeks!

BPL Youth Librarians continued to offer programs in a variety of mediums for all ages over the summer. We hosted 89 programs for youth with attendance totaling 4218 which is almost double the number or attendees at Youth programs from last summer! Programs included book clubs, Books Unboxed, outdoor story times at Barnum Park, take home craft kits, Narwhal and Jelly Jam, Painting Parties, Kids Library Society, Librarian Letters, Tie Dye T-Shirts, and more. We want to thank The Friends of the Baldwin Public Library for their support of Youth Summer Reading. Thank you Friends!

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**Teen Summer Reading 2022**

BPL’s Adult Services department was able to offer a more normal Summer Reading Program for Teens this year. Elisabeth Phou visited two high schools and two middle schools to promote the program before the end of the school year. We had a successful outdoor in-person kick-off event at the Library on the last day of school. Three teens volunteered to sign up teens and hand out swag. Our programs throughout the summer were all in-person and well received. A total of 152 teens registered for this
year’s program on Beanstack. The majority of participants resided within Baldwin’s for communities, but residents from other communities participated as well.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield Hills</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bingham Farms</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield Township</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Oak</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southfield</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bloomfield</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Programs included an escape room with Escape Room Novi, a flash fiction writing contest, weekend movies, afternoon crafts, a Mario Kart tournament, and an interactive showing of The Goonies. We continued to do our monthly book club, subscription book boxes, and anime club. There was a lock-in planned for August, but we had to cancel due to the water damage the night before.

Everyone who registered received a free YA book of their choice. Of the 152 registered teens, 43 completed the entire challenge. A total of 605 badges were earned, 284 book reviews were written, 130,588 hours of reading were logged.

The Library purchased vinyl stickers, candy bars, and pool floaties and towels, as well as gift cards to Dairy Deluxe, Beyond Juice, Starbucks, and Eli Tea to give away as prizes throughout the summer as readers achieved specific reading goals. At the end of the summer, we did a grand prize drawing and chose three big winners. Each person received a three-month subscription to Owl Crate, a YA book subscription service.

As always, huge thanks goes to the Friends of the Library who supported Teen Summer Reading through programs, supplies, prizes, and giveaway books.

Adult Summer Reading 2022

BPL’s Adult Services department returned to an in person kickoff the 2022 Summer Reading. The disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a significant impact on the Library’s operations, which naturally affected all aspects of Summer Reading. Although we were able to host a COVID safe outdoor in-person kickoff; we could not safely host most of our events as in-person programs. That said, BPL staff continued to develop and deliver a creative and engaging Adult Summer Reading program and saw adult participation reach levels comparable to the past five years.

This summer 113 adults participated in the Adult Summer Reading Program, an increase of more than 30% from last year. The majority of participants resided in our service area, but we also saw participants from other communities like Troy, Bloomfield Township, Southfield, Royal Oak, and West Bloomfield.
Of the 113 participants, 49 completed the full challenge—or about 43%. Readers collectively logged 793 books (an increase of around 300 books over last year). The adult participants also wrote 142 book reviews. Some reviews were short and sweet, others were more in-depth and contemplative.

Love was in the air this summer! Many of our most popular summer reads were romance titles.

- Book Lovers, by Emily Henry
- Verity, by Colleen Hoover
- Two Nights in Lisbon, by Chris Pavone
- The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo, by Taylor Jenkins Reid

In order to show support to local restaurants, the Library purchased gift cards to Townhouse to give away as grand prizes. The Library also gave Amazon gift cards to further encourage reading. The winners were excited to receive their prizes in August. Thank you to the Friends of the Library who supported Adult Summer Reading through programs, supplies, prizes, and book club books.

Database Renewals

Renewals for Brainfuse Tutoring and The Washington Post have been submitted, which should prevent any loss of access to patrons for the coming year.

Boredom Busters

YA Librarian Elisabeth Phou has created a cart full of board games to be made available to teens for use in the Teen Scene, especially in the afterschool hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield Hills</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bingham Farms</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield Township</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Oak</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bloomfield</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Facility

**Strategic goal:** Create a welcoming, safe, and accessible building that meets the needs of our staff and users.

**American Institute of Architecture Award**

Craft received a notice from John Gardner that the AIA Detroit Board of Directors 2022 Jury has decided to...
Luckenbach|Ziegelman|Gardner Architects for the following project:
Baldwin Public Library Addition and Renovation – Historic Rehabilitation/Adaptive Reuse Honor Award.
The Awards were presented on September 15, 2022 at Shed #3 Eastern Market in Detroit at a Gala event.

Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspection
Eastman Fire Protection came to inspect all fire extinguishers on August 24. Two extinguishers were replaced.

Building Maintenance
Air filters in the building were all changed on August 17. Thanks to City of Birmingham maintenance for coordinating those replacements.

Legacy Room
The Legacy Room has been cleared of historical material, much of which has been rehomed with museums and historical collections in the region, and now houses the Large Print Collection. Furniture has been replaced in the room, and it is open and ready for visitors.

Van Dragt Trust Furniture
After a delayed shipment and waiting in line for our turn with the installation team, we are happy to report the placement of new storage and work pieces, thanks to funding from the Jane M. Van Dragt Trust. We were able to purchase secure storage units for the Adult Reference Desk and Printing Area, an adjustable height work surface for the Idea Lab staff, a storage piece for our Outreach and Marketing, and a new counter height workspace and storage cabinet for the copy room on the second floor. Everything is much more organized, and resulted in a more welcoming aesthetic in all departments.
Window Cleaning
Annual window cleaning took place on September 15. All perimeter windows were washed, interior and exterior.

Window Replacement, Study Room 3
A window that cracked last winter in the extreme cold was replaced at the same time the Youth Services Window installation was finalized on August 24.

Youth Room Reopens
After the water damage that occurred overnight on August 4, 2022, the Youth Room carpet has been reinstalled, drywall replaced, patched and painted, and shelving has all been replaced, allowing the Youth department to reopen to visitors on Monday, September 12. We made the best of the situation, using the opportunity to shift some of the fixtures to more ideal locations, after the Youth staff have been working in the space for more than a year now.

Both YS and Access Services staff were able to move back to their permanent workstations in the Staff Office on Monday, and the temporary work area created in the Jeanne Lloyd Room has now been dismantled. Our thanks to all the staff for their hard work, flexibility, and patience with all the moving pieces, and to the public who were so sympathetic when they heard what happened.
Diversity and Equity

Strategic goal: Provide and promote equitable and inclusive resources and opportunities for all populations

IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access) Task Force
The IDEA Committee met on September 14. The group reviewed suggestions for changes to the Code of Conduct, ahead of the Policy Committee meeting scheduled for October. The group will continue to meet monthly to accomplish the goals set forth by the Library Board.

On September 28 at 3:00 staff will discuss Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot, and the Battle for the American Dream by Joshua Davis in a book club facilitated by Rosemary Isbell.

Project READY
In addition, the Youth Department will continue their work with Project READY as their staffing and scheduling will allow.

Community Outreach and Partnerships

Strategic goal: Develop and strengthen BPL connections within the community.

City of Birmingham
Craft has attended weekly City of Birmingham staff meetings. The meetings are being held via Zoom. Miller submits content for the monthly and quarterly newsletter and Craft submits an update to the City Manager to be discussed as part of his report during the last Commission meeting of each month.

Susan Dion and the Baldwin Boosters helmed the Kids Corner at the Birmingham Farmers Market on Sunday, August 14, sharing crafts with 157 people during our final appearance this summer.

Beverly Hills
Miller submitted information to the Village of Beverly Hills for inclusion in its weekly email and monthly newsletter.
Beverly Hills Lions Club
The BHLC provided Project Kidsight Vision Screening on Saturday, September 10 in the Youth Department. This free vision screening for ages 6 months and up is fast, non-invasive, and has an accuracy rating of 98%.

Bingham Farms
On Saturday, August 13, Jaclyn Miller, Danielle Rumple and Missy Mark represented BPL at the Second Annual Bingham Farms Family Fest, handing out fliers and answering questions, plus holding a bookwalk where they gave away books to children and adults. Overall, we talked to about 100 people about library resources.

City of Bloomfield Hills
Miller submits monthly Board Meeting updates to the Library Liaison.

Birmingham Next
Rebekah Craft continues to host the Popular Reads book club virtually on the first Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Mick Howey is leading the Library’s non-fiction book club, which meets virtually on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. Contact Rebekah.craft@baldwinlib.org to request the book and join the meeting.

Friends of the Baldwin Public Library
The Friends of the Library continue to sell deselected and donated materials from tables and carts in the lobby, and collect material donations on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Changing inventory generated $615 at the donation tables in the lobby in August, no small feat considering the Library was closed due to water damage. The FOL also sent out their annual newsletter to just over 400 members in early August, as well as a membership renewal reminder in early September. The next book sale will be a popup sale on September 24, and a weekend long sale will be held October 28-31.
Marketing
Michelle Hollo continues to work with Jaclyn Miller designing projects and marketing materials for the Library. She has completed or is working on the following:

- Learn.Connect.Discover Fall newsletter
- Display and directional signage
- Youth Program posters and fliers
- Adult Services program fliers
- Teen bulletin board poster
- Ad for donated space in the NEXT fundraising program

eNewsletters
Robert Stratton has compiled and distributed the Library’s four monthly eNewsletters (Adult Events, Teen Events, Youth Events).

Personnel and Organization
Strategic goal: Train, empower, and equip members of the organization to best support users and each other.

Volunteer Hours
56 volunteer hours were utilized in the month of August.

Communications with Staff
An all staff meeting was held on August 25. The next all staff meeting will be held on September 23, at Staff Development Day.

Staff Anniversaries
Brandon Bolek-Toubeaux, Assistant Head of Access Services, reached 21 years of service on September 18.
David Dapkus, Access Services Assistant II, reached 5 years of service on September 14.
Patricia Henricks, Circulation Assistant, reached 5 years of service on September 1.
Jessica Hoeck, Circulation Assistant, reached 5 years of service on September 5.
Jeff Jimison, Idea Lab Supervisor, reached 5 years of service on September 8.
**Staffing Updates:**

Sarah Dalmer is now our new Idea Lab Technology Assistant. Sarah is a talented 3D artist, a video game developer, a CCS graduate, and an all-around creative individual. She is also accustomed to working in a library setting, having served as a page at Sterling Heights Public Library. You may even have seen Sarah in the lab before, as she has been a regular user of The Idea Lab for some time. Her first day was August 15.

Our new Youth Services Librarian is Alyssa Gudenburr. Alyssa (pronounced a-leesa) is no stranger to Baldwin having worked as a substitute librarian in the Youth Department from 2018-2020. She started at Canton as a page, then an Intern, and then as a Youth Librarian. Alyssa is enthusiastic, creative, and always has a smile and encouraging word for others. We are pleased to welcome her back next week.

We have recently promoted the following staff to the position of Librarian II. Each librarian will be taking on more supervisory duties around the library, including managing substitute librarians, reference assistants, and volunteers. If Stephanie or H are on vacation or out of the building, these librarians will step in to lead the department in their absence.

**Adult:**
- Mick Howey - will be managing and training substitute librarians.
- Ethan Cronkite - Ethan will be managing and training our reference assistants

**Teen:**
- Elisabeth Phou - will be managing and training teen assistants and teen volunteers.

**Youth:**
- Syntha Green - will be managing and training our substitute librarians
- Rosemary Isbell - will be managing and training our reference assistants

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**Financial Stability**

*Strategic goal: Maintain and improve financial health.*

Craft continues to monitor the both the Library’s budget and the performance of its Trust funds in order to ensure fiscal responsibility as we work to fully resume pre-COVID operations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Adult Services</td>
<td>Presenter Fees</td>
<td>$ 350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$ 350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Services</td>
<td>Crafternoon Supplies</td>
<td>$ 147.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$ 147.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Services</td>
<td>STEAM program supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Filament</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer Reading program supplies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$ 370.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>$ 868.07</td>
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**August 2022 Balances**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Services</td>
<td>$ 5,462.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Services</td>
<td>$ 3,703.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Services</td>
<td>$ 4,470.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>$ 5,935.82</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Total Balance</td>
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**August In-Library Book Sale Donations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donations</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$615.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*BPL was closed from August 5-22, due to water damage*
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Phase 3 Building Renovation discussion
MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 15, 2022
TO: Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors
FROM: Rebekah Craft, Library Director
SUBJECT: BPL Logo Redesign

INTRODUCTION
At the August 2022 Board Meeting, the Library Board reviewed 7 potential logo options from designer Michelle Hollo. The Board took an informal survey and 3 board members were in favor of design 1 while 3 were in favor of design 3. The Library Board directed staff to survey staff and the public on favorite logo designs.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM – WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE COMMITTEE
The City of Birmingham’s Wayfinding & Signage Committee is responsible for maintaining a cohesive design on signage throughout the City. This Committee has developed a style guide for all Birmingham related signage and marketing materials. The style guide includes a palette of acceptable colors for Birmingham marketing materials. The primary palette is shown below.

SURVEY
An online survey was made available to members of the public and library staff and a summary of the results can be found following this report. 130 respondents provided feedback on the online survey. Additionally, we asked members of the public to share logo feedback on several posters placed throughout the library. Respondents were very passionate about the logo designs and what they represent. Most responded favorably to at least one logo, but a handful of respondents disliked all three logos. Overall, logo 1 was the clear favorite of the three designs in both the online survey and the in person poster survey.
**LOGO REVISIONS**

We focused on the following feedback and made updates to logo design 1:

- Respondents felt that the Birmingham green color was too dark. *Michelle changed the logo color to a blue color from City of Birmingham primary color palette. We have been using a navy color on our website and in much of our marketing materials in the past several years.*

- Respondents did not like the mixture of serif and sans serif fonts in the text. *Michelle updated the logo font to be a sans serif font, which is easier to read and more modern to reflect a library of the 21st century.*

- The two colors for the logo are not accessible for those with visual impairments, mainly because they use the color green and because the two shades are too close in hue. *Michelle changed the logo color to be a one color logo or a two color logo using higher contrast colors, both of which are fully accessible.*

The updated logo options are shown following this report.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Library Board should discuss the logo revisions and decide whether or not to move forward with one of the revised logos or ask Michelle Hollo to make additional revisions to the logo. The logo will then need to be presented to the City of Birmingham’s Wayfinding & Signage Committee for approval.
LOGO 1

2 COLORS
CHOOSEN FROM BIRMINGHAM LOGO PRIMARY COLOR PALETTE
FONT: ITC AVANT GARDE BOLD & ITC AVANT GARDE CUSTOM
LOGO 1

2 Color: Examples in Use
LOGO 1

1 COLOR
CHOOSEN FROM BIRMINGHAM LOGO PRIMARY COLOR PALETTE
FONT: ITC AVANT GARDE BOLD & ITC AVANT GARDE CUSTOM
LOGO 1

1 Color: Examples in Use
1. How visually appealing is Logo Design 1?

Answered: 122  Skipped: 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very visually appealing</td>
<td>58.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat visually appealing</td>
<td>27.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>4.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat visually unappealing</td>
<td>4.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not visually appealing at all</td>
<td>4.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Would you change any of the colors of Logo Design 1?

If yes, please elaborate

- “Not sure if the colors are the most appropriate for being ADA compliant when it comes to the new logo being used on websites etc. See website: https://briteweb.com/tools/ada-compliance-color-palettes/ for additional info. and/or guidance.”
- Use the city colors for continuity
- Many expressed dislike for the shade of green used
- I wish it was either a solid color, or incorporated a different color schematic. I like the blue and green, not together.
- “I always think of Baldwin and color green; I can’t tell if word Baldwin is gray or green or black; I like the blue but it doesn’t feel like Baldwin”
- “I would make the colors a little brighter”

If yes, please elaborate

- “Not sure if the colors are the most appropriate for being ADA compliant when it comes to the new logo being used on websites etc. See website: https://briteweb.com/tools/ada-compliance-color-palettes/ for additional info. and/or guidance.”
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- “I always think of Baldwin and color green; I can’t tell if word Baldwin is gray or green or black; I like the blue but it doesn’t feel like Baldwin”
- “I would make the colors a little brighter”

3. What comes to mind when you look at Logo Design 1?

- Books
- Reading
- Silhouette of book, but also open arms of a person
- Simple and classy
- This is a clear, updated logo for the library.
- Enthusiastic person enjoying reading a book!
- That the library to me is first and foremost about books.
- Simplicity
- Looks a little flat
- in tune with the community an open book all inclusive
• It took too long for me to realize it was a book.
• The building, also reading a book.
• A welcoming environment
• The Sydney Opera House
• Books, reading, open-mindedness at this library. Very clear visual, easy to remember, and easily associated with Baldwin Public Library.
• A flower.
• Freedom resulting from information and inspiration.
• Arms reaching out to welcome attendees.
• It looks the most like a person reading a book. The logo makes sense and is visually balanced and pleasing.
• The horizontal graphic implies expanding horizons, which in the abstract meaning of the phrase is what libraries do.
• Reading; books opening doors; people; growth
• A person reading, motion, engagement, reaching out and welcoming.
• A meditation center or stylized lotus.

4. What do you like about Logo Design 1?
• Clean
• Symmetrical
• This one's dimensions /proportions will make it so much easier/functional in layouts.
• I like it because it looks the most welcoming.
• Timeless
• Classic and sophisticated.
• “It's a pretty clean logo that could easily be converted to black/white for other purposes when Pantone colors or 4-color artwork is not an option and/or need to keep costs down. Logo Design 1 is balanced and would work well whether logo is enlarged and/or reduced down.”
• Melds the person with book imagery
• Easy to read and understand
• Simple
• Person element isn't too strong
• It emphasizes the name of the library
• Incorporating books into the library logo. It has a sleek, contemporary design. Horizontal shape fits nicely over words.
• The symmetry brings a sense of reliability and formality with the library name being a solid base, but the figure brings a sense of joy coming from the pages of a book. Compared to the other logos, this one has a nice balance between the fonts and the graphic. The book appears more like roof over the library yet leaves enough room for everything to breathe. I also like how the figures arms double as pages to the book. Baldwin Library has both old and new architecture, and I think this logo brings a sense of tradition and the contemporary.
- It's immediately clear what this logo references
- It just flows well and is very cohesive
- Everything works well together.
- Pleasant looking
- I love the colors and the simplicity
- Clean, easily read at different sizes
- It is very balanced in color and design. Very graceful and elegant.

5. What do you dislike about Logo Design 1?
- Would like to see the text PUBLIC LIBRARY in a sans serif font like BALDWIN is in. The serif font currently being used for PUBLIC LIBRARY makes this text very difficult to read and since reading is so important, it would be best not to have these two words running together quite so much even though that is an intentional part of the design.
- Too simple
- I think the city of Birmingham should somehow be in the logo, not necessarily in large letters but maybe along the bottom.
- Too compact; short image
- The dark green seems a little too dark. A slightly brighter green might bring a sense of growth, like a tree or garden.
- I don't like the font used for 'Public Library' text of the logo
- It lacks movement.
- It would be easier and faster to read the name of the library if the font color was all the same, but honestly, the font color is a very minor irritation.
- I would use all sans serif.
- If you didn't know it was a library, that graphic wouldn't look like a book.
- Stodgy. Static.
- Like all 3 logo options, this logo looks trendy and machine-generated. When you Google "library logo" images, you see that most look similar to these 3, with simple-modern, stylized images evoking books. They are interchangeable and could represent any library; they convey nothing unique about this particular library. BPL is fortunate to inhabit an extraordinary building that uniquely fuses historic with modern, and I'd like to see the logo evoke that. Such a design would not only uniquely capture BPL but would also have more longevity than a generic, trendy logo.
- Oftentimes library logos a too tied to simply books and reading. Not sure that this logo goes beyond that. Perhaps making the circle oval would give a stronger impression of a person.
- "BALDWIN" font is too large.
- it doesn't look like it's related to libraries
- Looks nautical or aeronautical
- It's generic and resembles the Shutterstock logo.
- I'm not sure what the circle in the middle represents. Is it supposed to be the head of a person?
- Nothing particular, this logo is very inoffensive.
The font combination. I dislike serif & sans serif fonts used together. I like the serif font better but the sans serif is clearer at small sizes and distances.

6. How visually appealing is Logo Design 2?

Answered: 117  Skipped: 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very visually appealing</td>
<td>14.03%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somewhat visually appealing</td>
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<td>Neutral</td>
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<td>Somewhat visually unappealing</td>
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<td>Not visually appealing at all</td>
<td>18.80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>117</td>
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</table>
7. Would you change any of the colors of Logo Design 2?

- Possibly, in order to make logo more ADA compliant when used on a website etc.
- This color combination is too dark. I like the blue and green combination, but I’d like to see a different shade of blue.
- Dislike the green color because it’s too drab
- Better differentiation of the two colors
- Perhaps make the green a little less dark
- change the green for something else
- This blue looks slightly darker so I like it a bit more than other one; I wonder about just opting for one color

8. What comes to mind when you look at Logo Design 2?

- I can’t see a book as easily as 1 & 3
- hands and something coming out of them
- Has religious undertones
- Looks like the logo for a charitable institution/social service agency
- Open book and helping hands conveying wisdom.
- A gymnast
- Hands cradling an open arms person
- An unusual design. I know it’s supposed to be hands, but you really have to study it to realize it’s hands.
- looks like a figure with hands supporting it; conveys the library purpose of helping the community.
- Welcoming, books, growth & nature
• Holding the reader in your hands
• a bird flying
• Peace and doves
• Balance and freedom
• Water ballet
• A library with welcoming open arms!!
• A reader spreading his/her wings
• It appears like hands supporting an individual who is expressing joy.
• The AllState insurance commercial: “You’re in good hands with AllState”.
• Inclusion — design depicts open hands
• Person in the center represents community, with the hands coming out of the book to uplift and enable said community member.

9. What do you like about Logo Design 2?
• Love the design and emphasis on community
• This one is soft, fluid, dynamic…HUMAN
• I love how it expresses community with the hands taking in everybody!
• More classy. Like symmetrical designs.
• This one! Looks like people can connect over sharing knowledge!
• Very fluid, but not too minimalist. Very nice!
• I like this one. hands for sharing culture, history, dreams. Modern, simple, fresh hands are welcoming because of the hands and the books.
• It’s interesting to look at
• Fonts/ colors work well with logo above wordmark. Using a sans serif font for "public library" seems clean and in-line with what a library is. I like the word Baldwin in blue so that it matches the binding of the book, it keeps the colors more blocked out and less like an alternating pattern
• Welcoming
• The concept.
• I like that PUBLIC LIBRARY has equal font size to BALDWIN
• I like the two tone color scheme.
• It has the essential info.
• Could be used for many different kinds of organizations and therefore rather generic.
• "Baldwin" in the serif font is classic and elegant, like our building
• The style of the logo and the logo itself remind me of a design that you would find on a tapestry in a Church.
• I do like the idea of the hands holding the person and also like book pages; I like that the person coming out of the book looks more dynamic; font is more fun in this one- feels more like a library
• The messaging is strong in this logo, and while incorporating a book also hints at more diverse ways a modern library assists its patrons.
• I love the concept and the intent.
10. What do you dislike about Logo Design 2?

- does not relate to library
- Not a strong logo. Doesn't do the best at conveying the logo is about books/library without reading the entire text. Logo Design 2 is the most distracting of the 3 logos and just feels like there is too much going on.
- The hands make it look cheap and cheesy
- Too much emphasis on hands symbolism
- Feels religious
- Fonts
- The message of a "book" isn't obvious. The hands are distracting.
- Looks like a dancer. Too high in height.
- I don’t like the frilliness created by the hands and the arms.
- Just sloppy and doesn’t brand reading or books
- Prefer sans serif font for ‘Baldwin’ and dislike the more abstract logo - not as visually appealing. Not as obvious that it is a book, almost looks like two hands for the book pages.
- I think it is less visually appealing. It takes more attention and time to figure out what it is. It might not be as easy to see for older and low-vision patrons. The book is not as readily apparent.
- Not immediately clear what it refers to
- Doesn’t read “library” to me.
- The hands belong on a church or charity logo, not a public library logo.
- I don't think the shape of the person (or flower?) Fits well with the hands. Looks off.
- I cannot tell if the pages are open hands, flames, or the person is jumping.
- Too chaotic; unsettling to the eye until you figure out what is going on in the image
- It is a little too busy. I'm not sure all the parts work together.
- It's too wavy and curvy. Not modern enough.
- The open hands look. It is fraught with religious implications
11. How visually appealing is this Logo Design 3?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very visually appealing</td>
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<td>Neutral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somewhat visually unappealing</td>
<td>23.97%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not visually appealing at all</td>
<td>14.06%</td>
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</tbody>
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12. Would you change any of the colors of Logo Design 3?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>25.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>70.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If yes, please elaborate</td>
<td>Responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Respondents: 102</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If yes, please elaborate

- Possibly, just to make the logo/colors more ADA compliant especially when used on websites etc.
- I don’t know but there are a lot more colors that would look more interesting alone or together.
- Something besides the dark green
- Too dark
- Change the green - too grey. It needs happier colors.
- I like the green better here but still feel like orange might be better. Or a more vibrant green
- Make all green; more hunter green
- the green is a little dark
- See above comment about green.
- The green is unappealing.

13. What comes to mind when you look at Logo Design 3?

- I see a book above the logo easily
- Splashing in a fountain.
- What is the graphic??? The graphic makes me wonder what it is for. It doesn't scream, hey, this logo is for a prominent library, but instead looks more like a similar graphic more commonly used for physical therapy and exercise companies.
- Dancer
- Athletic event
- Not much of anything. I'd guess the circle represents a person, but the wavy shapes and "bowl" at the bottom don't mean anything to me.
- Swimming/drowning/person in water
- Movement/Energy. Books, soaring, community and the individual, modern and fresh
- flight
- A fitness brand. Looks like a runner breaking through a finish line.
- Dynamic. Like the angle of the design which appears to be facing to the right.
- A book, a person
- Person reading, motion and activity springing and returning to its source.
- Looks well balanced
- I noticed the movement that’s created with the slight contrast between the person’s arm and the book pages
- This design seems a little more fun and fluid, since the person is more contrapposto. It is still a little weird at first though and not as visually appealing as the symmetry in the first logo.

14. What do you like about Logo Design 3?

- This looks like someone conducting a symphony.
- It’s dynamic
- More like a joyous person with hands outstretched
- Like the modern look, and round edges
• This is the cleanest
• This one looks inviting
• Uplifting!
• More modern
• It's unique and visually appealing
• It is NOT symmetrical. Symmetrical can remind people of order and proper placement. It's somewhat uplifting but not easy to identify what it is.
• Logo is visually the most appealing.
• The whimsical waves are nice and inviting.
• It looks happy and welcoming.
• The colors
• It is a more contemporary design that will hold up to the test of time. The bolder, straightforward typeface for the word Baldwin stands out and accentuates the contemporary design. The Public Library typeface nicely “contrasts” with the Baldwin type and, while classic in appearance, works well with the more contemporary graphic.
• Bigger font size and more appealing design
• I think it's the best of the 3. It's dynamic, has the right balance of art to text, and will be the most legible in small sizes.
• Colors
• I like the bold text and how the person is having an "eureka" moment.
• There is a flow to all the elements
• The overall design looks cohesive and holds together the best of the 3 (that is, the weight and feel of the logo and the fonts are more unified).
• Bold design and movement.
• I like the whimsical movement in the person in the logo.

15. What do you dislike about Logo Design 3?
• No apparent connection to a library.
• The graphic looks like someone is running/jumping (exercise related) without any association to a book or a library.
• Looks like it is for a community center or water polo team
• Doesn't represent the library to me.
• Nothing to do with Library nor books
• It is too abstract.
• Feels like swimming
• Similar issues as logo 2. In this case BALDWIN dominates everything. Public Library looks like it will collapse under the weight of Baldwin. The graphic seems tagged on rather than integrated with the text. The book symbol reads like a fountain. Try dropping the semi-circle in the book spine like Logo 1. The green pages should be thinner, similar to logo 1. The figure seems a little uncertain of what it's doing with one arm reaching up and the left arm arcing over the page.
• It's too busy
• Graphic is the worst of the three
● Has no meaning. Appears to simply be a blue & green design. “Baldwin” is too large & heavy looking.
● I don’t like how it looks like a fountain
● Only an abstract relationship with reading, learning and entertainment all of which I associate with a library.
● Like the others, it looks like trendy, generic, digitized art. It conveys nothing unique about our library.
● It doesn’t really suggest any strong feelings or symbols
● Baldwin and public library might be a bit too big.
● Too heavy looking, taller than wide
● It is a bit hard to tell that it is a person and a book, almost not enough separation between the two parts of the image

16. Please rank the designs in order from favorite to least favorite.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. Do you have any other comments to share about the logos you’ve seen today?
● Make sure the logo will work in all (present and future) aspects as intended since technology trends require artwork/logos to be adaptive (i.e. when used/opened on laptops, cell phones etc.) and that the color(s) can remain consistent regardless of electronic devices viewed on. Would love to see a version utilizing parts from all 3
designs...Logo Design 1 "person/book" graphic slightly larger, with "BALDWIN" bigger than shown in design 1, but smaller than in design 3, with the text "PUBLIC LIBRARY" in the sans serif font used for this particular text in design 2. Hopefully, whatever logo design is selected will be ADA compliant for ease of use when viewed by patrons that are visually impaired. :)

- They all seem way too similar. Should have explored different directions
- Put Birmingham in the logo.
- Font alternatives. Are there any? I like logo design 2. The figure is flowing but the font for Public Library is flat. The Baldwin font has some flow to it where there is none for PL. You have the reverse in the other two designs and I see you want to have a distinction between Baldwin and Public Library. Is there a similar font to Baldwin that is different but has some flow?
- They are beautifully designed, kudos to the creativity of the artist!
- Love the simple logo 1 - don’t try to overreach - reading is the brand
- If you are honoring Marshall Frederick’s sculpture in Shain Park then leave out the horizontal lines under the rising figure
- GREAT JOB! I like the lighter lettering. Seems a little less industrial.
- No. Thanks for asking patrons about the logo design. That helps me feel more involved with the library.
- Nice work by the designer and hope that they are not asked to take parts of each design to try and create a fourth. That is the kiss of death for any graphic artist plus shows a client who doesn’t know/understand design.
- Want name to stand out not logo due to it being a “reading” facility.
- All of them are great logos with attractive color and interesting symbolism. I think Logo One is the most straightforward as a representation of a library. The other two logos require more time and attention to see their different elements.
- The letters/font make me feel like I’m being hit over the head with a hammer. The design above them does not seem to relate to anything and is not attractive.
- Logo 1 is a clear winner. Visually appealing, immediately advises what it relates to, concise in size, font choice is good
- Interesting choices. Thank you for considering community input.
- These are terrible logos. I am very disappointed that none of these reflect the new age that libraries are stepping into with digital and print media. This looks very outdated.
- They’re all about the same, and uninspired. Time to go back to the drawing board. - A Baldwin user and believer.
- I like design 1 the most (relatively speaking). It’s symmetrical (which I like) and it looks like either book pages on the sides or the library building. But honestly all the designs don’t really convey to me a library. More like a waterpark design.
- Thank you for allowing public input
- The library’s signature logo needs further consideration and development in order to successfully evoke that which we uniquely are and offer, in a way that we’ll still be proud of 20 years from now.
- On first glance I like the second logo best. I like the way it flows and that it’s not symmetrical. I don’t like that it feels like a non-denominational Christian church logo.
Maybe if the books were more present or the hands different, not sure. That being said, I like Logo 1 best in their current versions.

- Nice design work by graphic artist.
- I would like to see the image from 3 combined with the type face from 2. In general I think that 3 is the right mix of bold but welcoming.
- I would have all of the words in the logo a sans serif font.
- I’d like to see the first image with the lettering from the second one and make it all hunter green or a more rich dark green or at least use the darker blue in the second one.
- All are well thought out!
- #1 seems large enough. Baldwin is in Block letters, dark, but not as prominent as #3.
- I wish our logo would instead be a stylized Marshall Frederick's ram's head to coordinate with the city's Marshall Frederick's park statue logo. It could be both iconic and fun & would look okay in Birmingham Green.
- It feels like there's nothing about these logos which immediately ties them to Birmingham, or BPL in particular. In addition, there's no conveyance of the multitude of services our library offers outside reading materials.
- I like what we currently use better than these.
- I would be happy for the library to use logo 1 or 3. Logo number 2 looks so much like a scary face, I would be disappointed if it was selected.
- I feel that the first logo encompasses more of the feel of the Baldwin Public Library than the other two logos.
DATE:    September 15, 2022
TO:   Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors
FROM:  Jaclyn Miller, Associate Director
SUBJECT: Considerations for the selection of a new janitorial service

Since 2017, the Baldwin Public Library has obtained its janitorial services through a contract with service provider DM Burr. The most recent contract was set to expire on January 31, 2023, however, rising staffing costs meant that DM Burr inquired about raising the hourly rate offered for the Library position, essentially nullifying the existing agreement. We are now operating on a month-to-month basis, paying $4,960.80 per month. BPL issued an RFP for janitorial services for five years in August 2022. A mandatory pre-bid meeting was held in August and bids were due on September 14.

Six companies responded to the RFP:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Fifth Year</th>
<th>Five-Year Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lakeshore Janitorial Specialist</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>$120,000.00</td>
<td>$132,000.00</td>
<td>$624,000.00</td>
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<td>Kleen-Tech</td>
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<td>$72,156.00</td>
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<td>G &amp; A Cleaning</td>
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<td>DM Burr</td>
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<td>$60,469.56</td>
<td>$297,898.26*</td>
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</table>

While we anticipated the cost of cleaning services increasing, even the lowest of these bids is higher than this service was budgeted for this year. We can take a month to investigate the feasibility of hiring our own staff members to fill this role, and compare the personnel costs to these bids. An unofficial estimate equates to:

- Full-time employee making $19 an hour with full benefits - $47,623 per year
- Part-time employee working 28 hours at $19 an hour - $31,527 per year.

If the Board would like to choose a company today, Miller recommends that best value is to offer the contract to DM Burr once again. Admittedly, there were some concerns with the quality of service from DM Burr in 2021, due to inconsistent coverage, but this seems to have improved with the higher pay rate.

If awarded, the contract calls for a periodic review of the janitorial company’s performance and allows the Library to get out of the contract if the company’s performance proves inadequate.

* Takes the total bid amount, plus a separate noted amount for the cost of the performance bond as indicated on the cost proposal included in their submission.
MEMORANDUM

DATE:   September 15, 2022  
TO:     Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors  
FROM:   Rebekah Craft, Library Director  
SUBJECT: Updates to Phase 3 project

CAFÉ

Jaclyn Miller and I met virtually with MCD on Tuesday, August 29 to discuss updates to the café space. MCD reduced the size of the counter originally shown in the image below from the January 2022 renderings because the Board decided against a full service café.

After reexamining the space, they had several objectives:

- Maintain a clear walkway from the front vestibule out to the Nanawall doors on the east side of the café.
- Ensure that any furniture placed in front of the ramp does not obscure the ramp; ideally nothing placed in front of the ramp should be taller than the ramp.
- Maintain sightlines to the artwork installation above the ramp and preserve the original Birkerts spandrel glass windows.
- Provide ample seating for library users.

They adjusted the layout of the café and moved the coffee counter into a newly created alcove on the east side of the café. This would help to save money on a custom, freestanding café counter and will also create a wider walkway from the entrance to the terrace. The backsplash will be fully washable.
The proposed café will have a sink, countertop space, coffee vending machine, built-in cabinets with locks, and a small fridge inside the cabinets. There will be a sign above the café counter saying “coffee” that can be read from either side.

Earlier this year, we surveyed staff and Board members about potential uses of the café and outdoor area. We want to make sure that our café can accommodate the following uses:

- Host an after-hours indoor/outdoor fundraiser in the spring/summer/fall with entertainment (speaker/author/band), food tables, bartender, live music
- Use it for messier programs - like cooking demos, gardening demos, craft demos
- Host an after-hours author talk outside and use the café inside for drinks/refreshments
- Consider renting the space for private events hosted by residents who have BPL library cards

We would be able to accommodate the above uses for the café with the new recessed countertop by using the built in café alcove and also pulling 2-3 tall café tables close to the café alcove to use as additional, flexible counterspace for a bartender, food table, or cooking demo.

Not having a permanent fixture that cuts into the middle of the café walkway greatly helps to maximize flexibility.

Café questions, with responses from MCD

1. **Will there be vending machines in the new space?** There is no wall space for regular-sized vending machines because two walls are windows, one is an elevator door, and one is a ramp. Adding vending machines will reduce space for gathering. If we eliminated the sink, we could put a vending machine next to the countertop coffee vending machine.

   Additionally, whatever we put in the café will be visible from the street and the sidewalk and will be a visitor’s first impression of the library. If we add a row of vending machines to the café, visitors will see a line of brightly lit machines that look more like a stadium or college cafeteria than a stately library.

2. **What is the cost differential between a built-in bar and a larger custom piece?** The half circle counter option is about 2/3rds more expensive the built-in counter shown.

3. **Is this location too close to the restroom?** Often times you have drinking fountains and vending machines right outside of restrooms. With the way the door to the bathroom has been adjusted and the wing wall has been added to the side of the coffee bar, we have created enough of a separation between the restroom and the café counter. The millwork for the coffee area has been designed to look like it is a separate little space. The bathroom door will swing out and have an automatic closer on it, so a person will never be looking into the bathroom.
From a practical perspective, it shifts the coffee away from the main entrance and moves it firmly within the gathering space. It’s a destination counter that makes it intentional to go into the coffee area to get coffee, rather than walk by a coffee machine and then continue walking into the library. Signage will make it clear where the coffee service is available. You would be able to see the coffee sign from inside the front door and from the terrace.

4. **What are the dimensions of the counterspace?** 6’8” wide and 28-30” deep

5. **Can you confirm that the café with this smaller counter fits 32 people?** MCD has developed two furniture layouts. The first has chairs and tables for 34 people. The second option has chairs and tables for 42 people.

*Option A, shown above, with chairs and tables for 34 people.*

*Option B, shown above, with chairs and tables for 44 people.*
Here are some items to discuss at the September 19 meeting related to the café:

1. What is your vision for this café space? What can be improved or changed about this proposed design that would help the café to better fit your vision?

2. Do you want to offer a café counter with a refrigerated section for sandwiches and baked goods? This would require health department oversight.

3. Are you happy with the café alcove or do you want to explore a different furniture layout?

4. Do you want to keep the sink in the current design? Or do you want to have space for a full-size vending machine and a countertop coffee vending machine?

5. Do you want to offer snacks and beverages on a freestanding countertop on the honor system? Library staff would be responsible for ordering and restocking these items.

STAIRCASE
MCD has been able to incorporate a $10,000 cost-saving measure to the front entry by moving the location of the staircase forward a few feet. The staircase position from their initial design would have required contractors to cut into the existing foundation to create a base for the stairs, and then would have required reconstruction of the foundation to fit around the stairs. The updated staircase design will butt up against the existing foundation and would not require extra excavation and reconstruction fees. This will also allow the top of the ramp to be pulled back to the south, making it less expensive to install the security gate into existing columns instead of adding two little columns to store the gate. About 15 square feet of space will be added to the main level, giving more space to the circulation desk and main lobby on the main floor at the top of the steps.

The original design had 5 steps, a landing, and then 5 steps, for a total of 10 steps.

MCD is now proposing two different staircase options:

- **Option 1**: Eliminate the center landing and continue to use 10 steps. Lengthen the treads to be 12” deep and the risers 6” tall.

- **Option 2**: Create a new staircase with 5 steps, a landing, then 4 steps, for a total of 9 steps. This option keeps the original landing, but will shorten the length of the treads to be 11” and increase the height of the steps to be 7”.

For comparison, the front steps of the library are currently 11” treads, with 5.5” risers.

Stair questions, with responses from MCD
1. **What was the original thought behind the landing in the middle of 10 steps? Is anything taken away by changing the design?** The landing was added initially to emulate what is already present in the Birkerts addition. The front entry currently has 6 steps, then a landing, then 5 steps. Throughout the project, we have been trying to pay homage to the existing building and in the case of the stairs, we were sticking with similar proportions.

2. **Why have 10 steps without a landing?** 10 steps without a landing are very common. A typical floor to floor height of stairs in a commercial building would be 14 feet. In the proposed staircase, the total height of Baldwin’s entry stairs is 5 feet. The maximum riser height you can have on a stair is 7”. You might have 24 steps (12 steps, landing, 12 steps) in a commercial building.

3. **Is a staircase with no middle landing more dangerous than a regular staircase?** There may be a higher instance of people tripping on a staircase with ten steps and a landing in between, because it is unexpected and people would be surprised by it. There will be a contrasting strip along the nose of each step for a visible differential between each step. By adding a landing, you may also find that people stop to chat on the landing in the middle of the staircase and block others from using the stairs.

4. **Are there railings on both sides and down the middle of the stairs?** Yes, there is a central railing and there are railings along both sides of the staircase.

**OTHER COST SAVINGS**
MCD has been slightly modifying the placement of various items in the lobby. The Birkerts addition used a system of columns and horizontal braces to create structural supports that are similar to a lattice grid. They were able to move the elevator 8” closer to vestibule so that it does not interrupt the structural lattice.

*This will probably save $20-30,000 in structural work.*

MCD adjusted the design to keep an existing column and paint it white rather than removing it and structurally reinforcing the wall elsewhere. This will break up the glass in the entryway (close to where the existing sorter room is) and will also make the glass less expensive, because it will not be as wide.

*Keeping the existing column with the glass will save $10,000.*

**WATER RETENTION STORAGE**
Nowak and Fraus, civil engineers, completed a site survey during the design development phase where they determined the coefficient of storm water runoff for the proposed addition. City
engineering conducted a review of the site plan submitted by Nowak and Fraus in August. City staff notified MCD that an extensive water storage basin will need to be added to the Phase 3 project due to a decrease in permeable space from the proposed addition. MCD estimates this will cost around $80,000.

City code requires that commercial buildings occupying a certain percentage of space must install water retention storage for storm water runoff. This City code has been in place for many years and has been waived for City buildings and the Phase 2 addition in the past. Due to changes in leadership at the City, new City staff members are requesting that all City buildings comply with the City code for permeability standards.

MCD asked that I reach out to the City engineering department to see whether or not this requirement could be waived. The engineering department will speak with City Manager Tom Markus to see if the City will consider waiving this requirement. With the increase in heavy rainfall events due to climate change and in light of our recent water damage, I believe it is prudent for the library to provide the recommended amounts of storm water runoff storage.

In the meantime, City Engineer Melissa Coatta reviewed the drawings and suggested the following value engineering:

- On the existing drawings of the roof of the proposed addition, there is 4” drain tile in the front and 6-8” roof leads. These could be upsized to 24-30” pipe to provide for more storage. Storage available in the pipes can count for the total storage requirements. The current plan from Nowak and Fraus requires 142 feet of 30” storm sewer, so you might not need a basin.

I passed along Coatta's suggestion to MCD and they will be reviewing alternative storm water storage solutions to meet the City’s requirements. MCD will be able to slightly shift the three trees on the terrace to the south to accommodate an underground basin. Another option that would help to reduce the coefficient of runoff would be to expand the garden or planting space included in the terrace.
Upcoming Events of Interest

Weekly Story Times
Visit our story time page at www.baldwinlib.org/storytime for dates, locations, and more information. Registration required. Story times are being offered virtually and outdoors.

Behind the Scenes Library Tour
Tuesday, September 20 — 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Join Director Rebekah Craft for a behind the scenes tour of the library. You’ll visit staff areas, learn how items are added to the collection, and hear about new programs and services. The tour will meet in the vestibule.

Happy Little Painting Party for Teens
Thursday, September 22 — 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Find that happy little feeling as we paint along with an instructional video and create our own happy little masterpieces. Registration required. Grades 7-12.

Phil Talks Whiskey
Tuesday, September 27 — 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Phil Kollin will tell the fascinating history of America's native spirit, Kentucky Bourbon! Join him as he describes bourbon basics, separates facts from commonly held whiskey myths, and shares a look at some of bourbon’s most legendary characters from the past 225 years. For those interested, Phil’s sipping recommendations include Maker’s Mark Bourbon, Elijah Craig Small Batch, and Four Roses Small Batch. Register to learn more for this virtual event.

Henna Workshop Grades 4 to 6
Tuesday, September 27 — 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Monique Herzig from Alchemy Slow Living Studio will talk to you about henna, give you a henna tattoo, and let you take home a henna cone to practice. Henna lasts on the skin for approximately 1-2 weeks. Registration required.

Volunteering with Birmingham Youth Assistance (BYA)
Monday, October 3 — 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Learn about Birmingham Youth Assistance (BYA) and the types of volunteering opportunities they provide. BYA is a Birmingham-based organization whose purpose is to strengthen youth and families while reducing the incidence of juvenile delinquency, child abuse, and child neglect.

Van Gogh in America: DIA Docent Tour
Tuesday, October 11 — 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Van Gogh in America celebrates the DIA’s status as the first public museum in the United States to purchase a painting by Vincent Van Gogh! Join docent Kathleen McBroom to experience this special exhibition of authentic Van Gogh works from around the world and to hear the fascinating story of America’s introduction to this iconic artist. Register for this virtual lecture.
Birmingham Museum Series - Threads: A Tapestry of Birmingham’s Historic Diversity

Thursday, October 13 — 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Join us for an overview of the enlightened, progressive, controversial, and sometimes shocking events that surround our complex cultural history in this introduction to the Birmingham Museum’s current exhibit, “A Tapestry of Birmingham: Exploring Our Diversity”. This is a hybrid event. You can attend in person or virtually. Registration is required.

After Hours Spooky Ghost Walk Grades 4 to 6

Friday, October 14— 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Grades 4 to 6. The annual Ghost Walk is back! Sign up for a one hour time slot and join the librarians on a spooky, after hours ghost walk. This program is designed to be spooky. Due to the logistics of the program, doors are locked five minutes after your time slot begins and latecomers will not be admitted. Grownups, please pick up your children promptly when your time slot is done. Registration and permission slip required.

Halloween Lock-In Grades 7-12

Friday, October 14 – 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Your favorite annual program is back! The Library is turning into a haunted house, and it needs spooky teen actors to scare the 4-6 graders! Please wear dark clothes or a creepy costume. The Library has some costumes available to borrow. Registration and signed permission slip required.

The Boogie Woogie Kid- Piano Favorites from the American Songbook

Saturday, October 15 – 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Matthew Ball, aka The Boogie Woogie Kid, is here for a piano concert of favorite songs from the American Songbook. Matthew will play classics like In the Mood, It Had to Be You, Just a Closer Walk with Thee, Basin Street Blues, Glory of Love, Bumble Boogie from New Orleans Song, Boogie-woogie Piano, and the Swing Dance Era. Join Piano & Song man of 5 million YT views for this special second in a series of Saturday afternoon musical events at BPL. For a preview visit Matthew on Facebook or online as “The Boogie Woogie Kid.” This is an in person event.
Famed sculptor Fredericks left mark across Michigan

Diane K. Bert
Special to HometownLife.com

Birmingham area residents have a most special heritage created by our late resident and world-renowned sculptor Marshall Fredericks.

Walking in Shain Park, the soaring Freedom of the Human Spirit sculpture highlights the scene. In the garden of The Community House two other sculptures are featured. At Baldwin Library a Siberian Ram sculpture is featured.

Fredericks and his wife Rosalind cared deeply about the community and raised their five children here. A fellow parent at Quarton School mentioned that a sculpture there would be welcome and appropriate.

Fredericks donated the Two Bears statue which is at the front doors of the school.

In 1998 Fredericks died at the age of 90. He had been working for 60 years based in Birmingham. His studio was at Normandy and Woodward, and he also had storage on the Briggs estate in Bloomfield Hills.

See FREDERICKS, Page 2A
Fredericks

Continued from Page 1A

After graduating from college he had a travel scholarship to study under Carl Milles in Sweden. Milles had studied with Rodin. He also traveled in Europe studying sculpturing.

Milles had moved to the Cranbrook campus and he invited Fredericks to join him in 1932. He came and assisted in the studio there and taught classes.

George Booth, the founder of Cranbrook, approached Fredericks and asked him to create a sculpture for the museum similar in concept to Rodin’s Thinker sculpture at the Detroit Institute of the Arts. Much to everyone’s surprise, Fredericks created a chimpanzee thinker. Booth is reputed to have smiled, laughed, and accepted it.

People who interacted with Fredericks remember his charm, wit, sense of humor and pleasant, cordial manner.

Julie Dawson, Birmingham artist and philanthropist, remembers a speech he delivered at the time of the first Our Town art show 37 years ago. He held the audience spellbound. “He was so gracious, charming and thoughtful. He was an amazing man continuing working into his late 80s.”

John Marrella, estate expert and jeweler, became a close friend of Fredericks after a phone call to Fredericks’ studio asking him to sign a chimpanzee sculpture he was proud to own.

Fredericks encouraged him to come to the studio. Fredericks signed it and added the sentence, “This is a self portrait.” Years of lunching together and friendship followed this encounter.

Marcy Heller Fisher of Bloomfield Township created a brochure for the Birmingham Museum which provides details on the location of sculptures in the area. She also authored “The Outdoor Museum: The Magic of Michigan’s Marshall M. Fredericks.” In the brochure Fisher mentions multiple sites: First Presbyterian Church for three sculptures, St. James Episcopal Church, First United Methodist Church, Kirk in the Hills, St. Hugo, schools, and many at the Cranbrook Educational Community.

During his lifetime, the Fredericks home on Lake Park had a beautiful collection of statues in the backyard. One was his famous, award-winning Leaping Gazelle. He specified that upon his death he would like the Gazelle to be at his gravesite in Greenwood Cemetery. It is there today.

The first casting of this sculpture was done in 1939 for the Barbour Fountain on Belle Isle. Many reproductions are in place around the world.

Rosalind and Marshall Fredericks participated in the planning of the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum at Saginaw Valley State University. It is unusual to have a single artist represented at a museum. They donated many beautiful sculptures, drawings, molds, sketches, tools, and memorabilia.

This is another example of their humanitarian efforts and civic involvement. The outdoor garden there features many of his famous works. Thousands of visitors including college students and elementary and high school students visit the museum and learn about the arts each year.

At the time of the founding of the museum the state legislature issued a proclamation stating, “People who have the talent and creativity of Marshall Maynard Fredericks enrich our world. They have a vision that captivates us as we see their artistic creations and they make our world a bit more beautiful.”

Birmingham is a bit more beautiful, indeed, seeing the beautiful works of Marshall Fredericks throughout the community.
Extensive virtual tour of Birmingham is in progress

BY MARY GENSON
mgenson@candgnews.com

BIRMINGHAM — Everything Birmingham has to offer will soon be displayed online through 360-degree images, drone footage, videos and graphics in the Skyway Interactive virtual tour of Birmingham.

Birmingham’s communication team decided to include these additional resources on the city’s website for visitors, and future or current residents, as they will now be able to explore the city from the comfort of their own homes.

This project cost the city of Birmingham approximately $3,750.

In addition to being embedded on the city’s website, the virtual tour can be shared on social media and email through a link.

“The idea was to give people a way to virtually transport to our city,” Communications Director Marianne Gamboa said.

Skyway Interactive is a company that specializes in creating virtual tours for clients. They are known for capturing sports arenas for big names, including the

See TOUR on page 25A

Tour from page 1A

University of Michigan, the Boston Red Sox, the Arizona Cardinals and more.

Since 2017, Skyway Interactive has launched over 160 virtual tours in over 28 states.

Instead of Skyway Interactive owner Jake Donahue flying out to shoot each location, clients of Skyway Interactive are sent a user-friendly camera to capture images that can be uploaded and used to build the virtual tour. “I’ve made it easy enough that anyone can do it,” Donahue said.

Each kit sent to a client contains a Ricoh Theta Z1 360-degree camera, a tripod and accessories. Currently, 32 different Skyway Interactive camera kits are floating around the country.

There are several benefits of having a virtual tour available for visitors and residents, city officials said.

“Looking at a map or a video is one thing, but when you can do a self-guided tour you can really familiarize yourself before you even get there,” Donahue said.

Gamboa said they also plan to feature city facilities. For example, there will be a way to choose to virtually enter the The Birmingham Museum.

During the virtual tour inside the museum, there is the option to add video and information pings to add an additional educational element.

Visitors are not the only ones who can learn from these tours. There is a lot of history and information that even longtime residents may not be aware of, city officials said.

“Even for residents that have lived here for a long time, I think a lot of people do not know all of the history that is here,” Gamboa said.

While the company has done several interactive tours, Birmingham is the first city to hire Skyway Interactive to create a virtual tour.

Donahue said he has been in contact with other cities he plans to potentially work with in the future.

Gamboa said they plan to launch the Skyway Interactive virtual tour in the fall. Once the virtual tour is ready, it can be found on the City’s website.

BIRMINGHAM-BLOOMFIELD EAGLE, August 24, 2022 — 25A

FREE hearing aid evaluation and $250 OFF of a hearing
August 25, 2022

Via regular mail

Baldwin Public Library
Jaclyn Miller, Associate Director
300 W. Merrill St.
Birmingham, MI 48009

RE: Bingham Farms Family Fest

Dear Jaclyn:

Thanks so much for the library’s participation in the village’s second annual Family Fest. Without participation from organizations such as yours, the festival would not have been the success that it was. A good time was had by all.

Thanks again, and please feel free to contact me at any time regarding general village matters. I’m at your service.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ken Marten
Village Administrator
kmarten@binghamfarms.org
Baldwin Public Library

September is Library Card Sign Up Month!
Baldwin Public Library offers the items you expect from your public library – books, DVDs, music, audiobooks. But you might be surprised to know that you can also access tons of other useful resources. You can read newspapers like the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Washington Post, peruse Consumer Reports reviews, learn a new language through Mango Languages, hone a new skill with LinkedIn Learning, or develop a new hobby with CreativeBug. You can read electronic versions of your favorite magazines with Libby, and stream movies with Hoopla and Kanopy. And, you can use your card to check out passes for free or discounted admission to over 400 places of interest around the state with the Michigan Activity Pass. September may be Library Card Sign Up Month, but we are happy to help you get a card and start using these great options any time!

Curbside Pickup Continues
Curbside pickup remains an option for collecting your library items. Simply pull into the marked space on Bates St., call the number on the sign and have your items delivered to your vehicle.
Charter amendment to update purchase procedures
Published on August 12, 2022 | By Lisa Brody

The city of Birmingham is seeking voter approval on November 8 for a charter amendment to update procedures on handling of purchases and contracts.

The proposed charter amendment would raise the ceiling amount for contracts that are required to go through the request for proposal (RFP) process, competitive bidding, and go before the city commission for approval. The current $6,000 threshold was last approved in 1987, and it requires that any contract for materials, tools, apparatus, equipment, goods and services in excess of $6,000 must have a RFP, be placed on the Michigan Inter-governmental Trade Network (MITN), competitive bidding, and commission review and approval. While that level may have been practical in the mid-1980s, it no longer is, and city leaders are asking residents to raise that level to $75,000 before they need to go through the process, similar to other communities.

According to an explanation of the request on the city's website, “The city attorney’s office conducted a survey of approximately 25 different communities throughout the state of Michigan to determine the threshold for approval of its legislative body. The $6,000 threshold determined more than 35 years ago is far different from $6,000 today. The proposed higher threshold is more relevant in today’s economy while also taking into account the infrequency of changes to the threshold amount. When looking at the total value of spending on purchase orders over the past 10 years, those that are below $75,000 make up a very small percentage of the total purchase order value. Raising the threshold would greatly reduce the number of contracts that the city commission has to approve at its meetings, but still provide the city commission with substantial oversight over the total value of contracts being approved.”

If approved by voters, the purchasing guidelines will be updated to state the dollar limit for purchases requiring no bids or quotes, purchases where quotes must be obtained, purchases that may still need commission approval, and purchasing limits that will require additional approvals from the city manager, city attorney and the finance director. The city commission would review these guidelines and limits, and approve what they deem appropriate for the community.
Residents can meet with city commissioners
Published on September 2, 2022 | By Lisa Brody

Birmingham city commissioners are inviting residents to meet with them and provide input at a series of community participation workshops to help with strategic planning.

Residents are invited to attend the next strategic planning community participation workshop on Wednesday, September 14, at 6 p.m. at Baldwin Public Library, 300 W. Merrill Street, in the lower level Rotary Room.

Attendees will work with city commissioners in small break-out groups and have the opportunity to provide input throughout the duration of the workshop. Following a comprehensive and equitable evaluation of the city and community, the resulting plan, which is expected to be completed later this fall, will include strategic goals to direct the city’s efforts and resources towards a clearly defined vision for its future.

A “putting it together” meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 11, at 7 p.m. in the Jeanne Lloyd Room at Baldwin Public Library. Mayor Therese Longe will call for a short public comment period at the end of this workshop to be sure the city commission has as much time as possible throughout the workshop to learn, explore, discuss and hear community input.
Librarians are on the front lines of the book-banning battle, but they’re not giving up without a fight

Martha Hickson knows why reading is important. In her 17 years as a high school librarian, she’s watched over and over as books have helped young people find language to describe their lived realities and exposed them to lives and worlds beyond their own. So she was puzzled when, in September of last year, a group of parents asked the local board of education to ban two titles from her library: *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe, and *Lawn Boy* by Jonathan Evison. One parent even called Hickson out by name in her testimony at a board meeting, upset that Hickson had “let” her 16-year-old son read books by and about queer people.

When Hickson went to investigate why this was happening, she discovered that these challenges weren’t isolated incidents—they were part of a coordinated movement advocating book banning, which has, in her words, “spread like a fungus nationwide.” Organized and connected by the internet, parent groups are aiming to ban books by Black authors, LGBTQ+ books and plenty of young adult titles. These bans aren’t about literary merit; some of the best books have become banned books because people object to their content.

As far as Hickson is concerned, banning books is tantamount to professional malpractice. “First, the whole idea of being upset about ‘letting’ a student check out a book confuses me,” she said in a recent
email. “It’s a library, the purpose of which is to allow readers to independently select reading material. ‘Letting’ people check out books is the whole point.”

But beyond that, she adds, “when I order books for the library or create a book display, I’m mindful about making sure that the whole community of kids in the school can see themselves represented—not just so they can read about people like them, but also so they can experience lives that are different from their own. That’s called education.”

There’s been a nationwide rise in book bans in the past few years; the number of bans went up by 14% between 2018 and 2019 alone. These actions have pushed librarians into an uncomfortable spotlight as their fight to freely distribute information is met with legal attacks at work as well as tactics that sometimes hit closer to home. But they aren’t taking it lying down. From forming banned book clubs to advocating for legislation that will protect them and their workplaces, librarians are pushing back on people and organizations that try to ban books.

### The rise in book banning

Book banning is hardly new. In fact, many classic books were first banned centuries ago.

One of the first books to be the subject of a widespread ban in America was Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, which was published in 1852 and depicted the life of enslaved Black people in the pre-abolition south. Because it ignited a debate about slavery, and even inspired sympathy for Black people, it was barred from being sold in Confederate states. Books about race relations in America have been a frequent target of bans ever since.

Then came the 1873 Comstock Act, which prevented the distribution of “pornography” through the mail. Explicit sexual material wasn’t the only thing that got caught up in its dragnet. Court cases in the ’30s and again in the ’50s loosened the legal definition of obscenity and gave us the relative freedom to send, read and sell books that we enjoy today.

But there are occasional waves of increased repression, as happened in the late ’70s and early ’80s. In 1982, the American Library Association created Banned Books Week, an attempt to bring attention to the issue and demonstrate that challenged and banned books had enormous literary and social merit. At that time, the organization reported 700 to 800 challenges to books per year. In 2021, that number was closer to 1,500 books. To get a sense of where you fall in the history of book banning, check out a list of books banned the decade you were born.

This movement to ban books is being led by a small but vocal minority. A recent American Library Association survey found that most voters across the political spectrum oppose efforts to remove books from libraries. But it’s those who are in favor of bans who are working hardest to get their voices heard.

### Librarians under attack

It’s not just books (and the students who want to read them) that are affected by
book banning. This latest wave of bans comes with a side of personal rhetoric that has made it hard for librarians to feel safe in the profession—and sometimes even in their homes.

Hickson was accused of being a sex offender. The parents who objected to the reading material she provided for students contacted law enforcement, sent her hate mail and smeared her on social media. “It all became so intense that I experienced a physical and emotional breakdown on the job in mid-October 2021,” she says, “which resulted in my doctor removing me from the workplace for several weeks, prescribing anxiety medications and referring me to a therapist.”

This isn’t an uncommon outcome. “Many school librarians are nervous coming into the school year, given the attacks and threats that are being made on librarians and teachers as well as the increasingly personal natures of those threats,” says Peter Bromberg, associate director of political action committee EveryLibrary. “We have armed individuals and groups showing up at school board meetings, and the extreme rhetoric coming from some politicians is stoking the fires. I would not be surprised if we saw a wave of resignations and retirements over the next year if these threats continue.”

And Louisville Free Public Library director Lee Burchfield says that while the library system he oversees hasn’t been deeply affected by the recent rise in challenges to books, he’s aware of the increasing attacks on librarians across the country and how it’s affecting people in the profession. “As a library professional, it is discouraging,” he says. “It seems like such a simple concept—to check out and read the materials you want to read and allow others to do the same. I think, personally, it’s just shocking and disappointing that anyone would think book banning is a good idea.”

But some librarians remain unbowed. “Every librarian I’ve spoken to who’s within striking distance of retirement is weighing whether to stay,” Hickson says. “I’m no exception. I’ve thought about leaving, but at this stage of my career, it’s just not practical. Leaving now would reduce the income on which my retirement plan is based, and I’m just not willing to have book banners pick my pocket for the rest of my life. So I’m going to try to stick it out and ride this wave of censorship. It’s got to end sometime.”

**The book banning effect**

Every day Hickson stays at her job is a day that her students have access to diverse books. And those can have a life-changing impact. “We have many books about sensitive subjects that affect teens: substance abuse, anxiety, depression, divorce, sexuality, eating disorders,” Hickson says. “Banning those books from a library doesn’t take those issues out of society or out of teens’ lives.”

In other words, stocking feminist books, Native American books, Asian American books and books by Latinx authors—among many others—isn’t a political agenda. It’s just an attempt to reflect students’ reality outside of the library’s walls.

When she thinks of what these books mean to their readers, Hickson recalls an Asian American student reading Michelle Zauner’s *Crying in H-Mart* on her recommendation … and then returning to renew the book so that his mom could read it too. She thinks of the student who checks out every freshly acquired LGBTQ+ book that appears on the New Arrivals shelf. “The joy on her face and the excitement in her voice were so sweet,” Hickson recalls.

And while Hickson was fighting the challenges to *Gender Queer* and *Lawn Boy*, a former student reminded her of why the battle against book bans is crucial. “He’s now pursuing a doctorate in psychology and told the board how important it is for LGBTQ+ students to have books available in the school library,” she says. “When he came out in high school, he was kicked out of his home and
taunted by fellow students in the classroom. Reading books about gay life wouldn’t have been safe for him at home. The school library was the only place he could safely access the reliable information he needed.”

Without those resources, her student would have been isolated, alienated and potentially unsafe.

**Librarians fighting back**

Librarians and their systems are combating censorship in every way they can. It starts with the challenges themselves.

“We have not banned any titles [at the Louisville Public Library],” Burchfield stresses. “I want to be clear about that. When we receive a formal challenge, we evaluate the item to see if it fits the parameters of our selection policy. So far, all the items that have been challenged have been found to do so.”

All the challenged books have met the Louisville Free Public Library’s selection policy. And so those books have remained available to the public.

“Librarians are fighting back against book challenges by showing up every day and simply doing their jobs,” Bromberg says. “It’s not flashy, but school librarians and library directors across the country are doing the important work of talking to their community, helping their boards understand the mission of the library, the importance of following policy and defending the First Amendment rights of all community members and all students.”

He also points to an increasing number of grassroots groups led by parents and citizens that are organizing locally and statewide—like banned book clubs, where students meet to read frequently banned books and discuss them together, and the Texas-based Freadom campaign, which promotes the freedom to read.

“EveryLibrary provides pro bono help to these groups, coaching them on how to effectively show up and speak up at board meetings and legislative hearings, and how to offer a strong defense of first amendment rights and counter the un-American efforts to remove the voices of BIPOC and LGBTQ+ authors from our shelves,” says Bromberg, who encourages anyone in need of such support to reach out to EveryLibrary.

Hickson says she definitely feels the support from within and outside the library world. “Librarians are a tight-knit community,” she says. “To help me, librarians from throughout New Jersey and nationwide wrote to the board, and some spoke at board meetings. Around the country, some librarians have spoken to the media to get the word out.”

And they do it even though they face potential backlash—the sort of threats and smear campaign Hickson experienced.

**Fight for your right to read**

Book banning may have the most obvious effect on students and librarians, but it’s an issue that affects us all. When kids can read widely, they expand their worldview and become better, more
empathetic humans who have a greater potential to change the world. As frequently banned author George M. Johnson told Reader’s Digest, a book is “a tool that helps youth understand that other people exist outside of them—and that some of them have a privilege that can help those people. So maybe when they become the leaders, the systems they create and build will be encompassing of everyone because they have learned about other people.”

With that in mind, everyone who cares about preserving the right to read needs to exercise their right to vote for people who oppose book bans.

“There’s only so much librarians can do on our own,” Hickson says. “We need community voices and community support. The next few months, leading up to the November election, will be crucial. Libraries and librarians will continue to be targeted as a means to manufacture outrage among some voters. Those who value the First Amendment right to read need to fight back.”

She encourages everyone to “show up at school board and library board meetings. Speak up to demand that readers retain the right to make their own choices. And most important, vote in November, paying special attention to candidates’ views on intellectual freedom at all levels of the ballot, from school board on up.”
A Mich. library refused to remove an LGBTQ book. The town defunded it.

Published on August 24, 2022 | By Danielle Paquette

Sea-themed books are displayed at the Patmos Library. Voters rejected a proposal this month to continue funding the library after residents voiced their concerns over the availability of LGBTQ titles. (Joshua Lott/The Washington Post)

JAMESTOWN, Mich. — Two librarians had quit since the trouble began, and Kaitlin McLaughlin didn’t want to be the third.

But the same term kept coming up in board meetings and on yard signs, making her feel awkward and wrongly accused: grooming.

People in this western Michigan farming town said the Patmos Library was “grooming” children and, according to fliers that one group printed, promoting an “LGBTQ ideology.” They said bookshelves meant for young readers featured same-sex pornography. They called the staff pedophiles, McLaughlin said. Then one August morning, they voted to defund Jamestown’s only public library, jeopardizing the institution’s future as neighbors clashed over who gets to decide free speech in this deep-red corner of America.
“I’m not a ‘groomer,’” said McLaughlin, 34, gathering children’s books for a lunchtime story hour. “I’m not a pedophile. I’m afraid of what people see when they look at me.”

The vitriol in Jamestown spiked with the rise of groups campaigning across the United States to banish texts with LGBTQ characters, accusing authors, teachers and librarians of trying to brainwash the nation’s youth. The American Library Association said it counted an “unprecedented” number of book ban attempts in 2021, noting that most of the titles dealt with sexual orientation, gender identity or racism.

Americans have long sought to censor literature — “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” was an 1852 target for its anti-slavery message — but debates over transgender rights and critical race theory have lately spawned aggressive grass-roots movements to control the worldviews shared with children.

Which is how a railroad-themed library on the site of an early 20th-century train station lost the financial support of its community. Which is why the staff — three librarians, down from the usual roster of five — are mulling which activities they might have to slash (puppet shows? craft-ernoons?) and how long the lights can stay on.

“The loss would be enormous,” said McLaughlin, the youth services librarian. “We have something for every single person — from every walk of life.”

Jamestown, with a population of nearly 10,000, has Christian conservative roots. Dutch last names are common — a legacy of the Calvinists who split from the Netherlands in the mid-1800s to settle here and practice a stricter form of Christianity. The county celebrates this heritage each spring with a tulip festival.
The 22-year-old library hosts birthday parties, bridal showers, HOA meetings and blood drives. Residents praised it as a haven for all ages until controversy ignited with an award for the best teen books.

The National Library Association’s young adult branch named 10 winners in 2020, including a post-apocalyptic thriller about a boy searching for his lost dog, a science-fiction horror about twins with superpowers and a memoir about growing up nonbinary called “Gender Queer.”

Amber McLain, the library’s director at the time, ordered a copy of each. Pink-haired and openly queer, the 30-year-old stood out in a county that hadn’t backed a Democrat for president since 1864. Yet people embraced McLain, her former colleagues and patrons said.

“She helped bring my son out of his shell,” said one mother, Sara Crockett, checking out a STEM toy kit on a recent afternoon. “He’d light up when he saw her.”

“I miss Miss Amber,” 5-year-old Cecil said, clutching her hand.

Nobody complained about McLain until last November, after video of a Virginia mother condemning “Gender Queer” as “pornographic” took off on social media and protests against the memoir spread nationwide.

The 239-page graphic novel contains illustrations of masturbation, a sex toy and oral sex, as well as depictions of menstrual blood. Fans saw the scenes as part of the author’s coming-of-age experience, while critics blasted them as sabotage to developing minds. “Gender Queer” became the most banned book of 2021.

Some parents found a copy in the Patmos Library and created a Facebook group called “Jamestown Conservatives” pushing for its removal. One of the organizers, Lauren Nykamp, declined to be interviewed but responded to some of The Washington Post’s questions over text. “This is not about LGBTQ material,” she said. “It is about sexualized material.”

These are books school systems don’t want you to read, and why

One resident posted on the Facebook page: “These pictures cannot be unseen and they are dangerous and disturbing!”

Another wrote that a “Marxist lesbian” led the National Library Association, adding that “this shows the mindset of those we are up against.”

Several appeared at board meetings, railing against “Gender Queer” and McLain. One grandfather told her that “God designed the original plumbing,” that marriage should stay between a man and a woman, and that exposing children to content outside of those bounds could lead to suicide, pedophilia and human trafficking.

“I know we live in a nation where you can have your right to your lifestyle, and that is fine,” he said, according to audio of a meeting last November, “but we don’t need to push it on our kids.”
McLain countered that 90 out of their roughly 67,000 books had an LGBTQ keyword. She said they spent the most money on Christian fiction.

Nykamp, the Jamestown Conservative organizer, was also there, lambasting “Gender Queer” as pornographic.

“On Page 135, I can see a middle-aged man with an erection touching another young man’s erection,” she told the room. “Possibly a man younger than 18.”

The township supervisor, Laurie Van Haitsma, sided with Nykamp.

“It’s graphic as you can be,” she said. “I would not want my children and grandchildren seeing it.”

A lawyer had reviewed the book and determined it wasn’t pornographic, McLain replied. Still, given the mature content, she’d initially placed it in the adult section — near novels with heterosexual sex scenes. As the objections mounted, though, she moved “Gender Queer” behind the counter, making it available only upon request.

“We have to represent every segment of the population,” McLain said, “not just the vast majority.”

The backlash grew from there. One March day, staffers said, a woman showed up at the library, recording a video and yelling: “Where is she? Where is the pink-haired freak? Where is the pedophile librarian?”
McLain hadn’t been there. The library board president told her about the incident, saying she could work remotely if she’d like. (McLain declined to be interviewed for this story but confirmed the sequence of events to The Post.) Citing harassment, she opted to quit.

So did her replacement, Matthew Lawrence, 25, who transferred to a library in another town — he doesn’t feel comfortable saying where — after a tense encounter in June. A patron had demanded to know if he was gay, he said, and insisted he remove a rainbow-hued sign that said: “Please use the other door.”

The environment had grown hostile, Lawrence said, but seeing the local official join the protest against “Gender Queer” ultimately motivated him to leave.

“The complaint is that kids are going to pick it up and see things they can’t unsee,” he said. “The easiest way to avoid that is to parent your children.”

The battle was brewing at a pivotal moment: Every 10 years, Jamestown voted on renewing the Patmos Library’s public funding, the bulk of its budget, and the next decision was slated for August. This time around, the library had proposed a slight increase. Board members estimated that the annual bill for the average household would rise to $20.

The Jamestown Conservatives responded with fliers saying that the library peddled “LGBTQ CONTENT” and “PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS” and that the community must address “these evils.” Up went yard signs against approving tax dollars to “GROOM our kids.”

“If you think your child needs to have sexual books, on either side of sexuality, then you should pick it up at the store and share it at home,” said Jodi Buchanan, 58, a Christian thrift shop volunteer who applauded her neighbor’s “GROOM” sign.

Buchanan said she voted against the funding renewal to send a message, doubting that the Patmos Library would actually be forced to shutter.

“That’s a threat to the community,” she said.

On Election Day in August, about a third of the town’s voters turned out. A slim majority chose to defund the library.

“You want to defund the freaking library?” asked Chavala Ymker, 23, a nonprofit farmworker who grew up behind the building.

As a home-schooled teenager, Ymker, who uses they/them pronouns, said they’d wander over and dig into a series about World War II or a paper house-building guide or an Amish romance novel — their “spiciest” indulgence.

“When I was stressed or anxious, I’d go there to relax,” Ymker said. “It always felt like a safe and welcoming place.”
Any theme could be seen as threatening, so McLaughlin decided the safest bet for her recent story hour was “cats.”

It had been nine days since the vote, and the librarian told herself to stay strong for the children. A Christian, she'd started the morning with a plea to God: *Please let people see that my co-workers and I aren’t here to groom anyone for any causes.*

At first, she thought the term was silly — grooming — and associated it with her boyfriend’s family golden retriever. Gradually, it came to haunt her. Parents remained polite to her, but what if they harbored doubts about her intentions?

“How are you today?” McLaughlin asked a mom and daughter on a bench outside, where she liked to read when the weather was nice. “I’m going to be reading about cats.”

“Oh! I love cats!” a 9-year-old girl with blonde pigtails replied.

“I’m going to start with a silly book called ‘Stack the Cats,’” McLaughlin said.

Two other moms perched in the shade. Three little boys crowded at their feet. Yellow daffodils swayed in the breeze.


The children stared.
“You stack them!”

McLaughlin yearned for the critics to see what really went on here. She told patrons that her only agenda was promoting literacy. She made $16.25 an hour and supplemented her income with shifts at a senior home. It was enough to cobble together a decent living, but McLaughlin — who’d lost her job for two months during the pandemic — wondered if she should be looking for a more stable paycheck.

Patmos Library had enough money to stay open until late next year, and the board had scrambled to get the funding issue back on the November ballot, hoping they could change the town’s mind before the midterm elections.

One resident, meanwhile, started a GoFundMe to cover financial gaps. It had already raised $146,000 — about $100,000 shy of the library’s yearly budget.

The support touched McLaughlin, but quietly, she feared for her safety. If people truly thought they were grooming children, harassment could fester into something worse.

The librarian wasn’t sure what to do, so she just kept reading.

“Two cats hide and two cats seek,” McLaughlin intoned to her story hour audience. “And four cats stack!”
Opinion

Stevens: Our libraries are at risk: This is no laughing matter.

Published on August 28, 2022 | By Solomon D. Stevens

It makes me sad, but it also frightens me. In a small town in Michigan, a library’s funding has been eliminated. Members of the community have been attacking the library for grooming young people to be gay and transgender. Members of the library staff have been falsely accused of being pedophiles. And books in the library have been falsely labeled as pornographic. It’s time we stopped the madness.

I wasn’t in favor of defunding the police, and defunding libraries is a bad idea, too. I don’t think it’s cute to support defunding libraries because other thoughtless people talked about defunding something else. Right-wing foolishness should not be celebrated as payback for left-wing foolishness.

A library is a public depository of books that should reflect the richness and complexity of contemporary public affairs and should offer access to the best of Western civilization and its
alternatives. And as upsetting as it might be for some, this includes books that challenge traditional views of the family and sex. This is not all that a library should be, but it is part of what it should be. It doesn’t exist for the promotion of a politicized version of evangelical Christianity or of any other political or religious group. Libraries should include controversial material. They are not institutions designed to promote a particular way of life — and certainly not to promote a particular interpretation of a particular religion.

But more than this, a library is a place of wonder, a place that fosters broad learning and reflection — where people can go to let their imaginations take flight. As such, it cannot be limited to defending whatever religious group is dominant or whatever political party is most powerful at the moment.

Libraries have often had to deal with communities that wanted to censor one book or another. But if the “defund the library” movement takes hold in this country, we are all at risk. Whatever we have called culture here in America will be lost, perhaps forever.

What are your memories of going to the library? Mine are precious. As a child, my mother would walk with my sisters and me, and we would spend time there exploring — without a particular purpose or agenda. We loved it, even though we had what was almost a library at home, with books in every room and my father’s study just down the hall.

But the public library had its own special charms. I remember how exciting it was when I first learned the Dewey Decimal system that defined library organization at the time. I would walk to a particular section of shelves and just browse. And later, I learned the Library of Congress system as well, so I could find my way around newer and larger libraries. The most exciting books I discovered at the library were the ones I found by accident.

How can we be the best parents we can be? More than anything, we need to encourage our children to think for themselves and explore life’s mysteries for themselves, even if we are nervous about what they want to explore. If we love our children, we need to trust them. That is part of what it means to love someone. Our goal should not be to create clones of ourselves; it should be to teach them how to fly and then let them take flight. We can love them, even if they are different from us. So if they discover books critical of our religion or politics at the library, that is something to be celebrated, not punished.

A library isn’t grooming children to be gay or transgender just because it has books that discuss these things. It isn’t forcing these books down the throats of innocent, unsuspecting children. And it isn’t attacking our religion just because it includes books that call it into question. It is simply being a place that encourages us to think and explore, and that is something to celebrate, not condemn.

The famous Christian poet John Milton, author of “Paradise Lost,” wrote an essay titled “Areopagitica” in which he criticizes the idea of censorship. He argues that one cannot learn what is true unless one reads books of all sorts, even heretical books. The human mind is not corrupted by falsehood. It is corrupted by narrowness and ignorance.
Milton says he “cannot praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue, unexercised and unbreathed, that never sallies out and sees her adversary.” Virtue is only true virtue if it is tested. If we defund libraries, we are trying to promote nothing more than fugitive and cloistered souls.

Solomon D. Stevens earned his doctorate in political science from Boston College and taught constitutional law, American government and political theory. He lives in North Charleston.
BIRMINGHAM — A series of strategic planning workshops hosted by the city of Birmingham will take place throughout September.

This series is a part of the process of building a new strategic plan, which will provide direction for the city manager and the City Commission, officials said.

A strategic plan is a document that is the result of a process involving an organization defining its mission, vision, long- and short-term goals, and objectives with measurable performance indicators.

The city issued a request for qualifications for a strategic planning facilitator in April. Lew Bender was selected for this role in June.

Once the process is completed, the new strategic plan will go into effect in the fall, and it will include three- to five-year goals for the city.

Since City Manager Tom Markus’ term will end in June of next year, this strategic plan will give the incoming city manager something to refer back to. The City Commission will also be able to evaluate projects and initiatives based on how each one aligns with the strategic plan.

The first of the series was the “City Commission Visioning Workshop,” which took place Aug. 24. Mayor Therese Longe called for a short public comment period at the end of the workshop.

Upcoming workshops in the series will be at 6 p.m. Sept. 14 and 17. The public is welcome and encouraged to join and participate at the Baldwin Public Library.

Birmingham Communications Director Marianne Gamboa said community participation is key to this process.

“It’s really important to have community input as we put together goals for the future, because not only do we want to get feedback from city staff, city officials, board members and the Commission, but the input from the people who actually live and work here as well as those who come and use our perks is extremely important too, as far as putting together the whole big picture for the community,” Gamboa said.

The workshop Sept. 14 will be the workshop seeking the most community participation.
This “Community Participation Workshop” will take place at 6 p.m. in the Rotary & Donor Rooms at Baldwin Library. Feedback from the community about challenges, opportunities and achievable goals is highly encouraged by the city.

Gamboa said the community should be creative when coming to the city with their thoughts and ideas.

“We are looking for big, overarching, very broad goals and visions for the city,” Gamboa said. “So, it could be something we have never even thought of before.”

The final meeting is called “Putting it Together” and will take place Tuesday, Sept. 27. at 6 p.m. in the Jeanne Lloyd Room at the Baldwin Library. A short public comment period will be at the end of the workshop.

“We thought it was just an excellent opportunity to take stock of what the commission feels are important things that we would like to look at accomplishing in the future, what our vision for the city might be, and then to reach out to the community and ask all those same questions,” Longe said.

Longe said anyone who is interested is welcome to come and tell the City Commission what they like about Birmingham and what they would like to see in the future.

If a member of the community is not able to make it to one of these workshops, they can share their feedback on Engage Birmingham. All feedback submitted on Engage Birmingham will be presented to the City Commission at one of the workshops.
Baldwin Public Library Trust Meeting
Rotary Tribute & Donor Rooms
Immediately following regular Board meeting

Agenda

Call to order and establishment of a quorum

I. Consent Agenda
   All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by
   one motion and approved by a roll call vote. There will be no discussion of
   these items unless a board member or a citizen so requests, in which case the
   item will be removed from the general order of business and considered as the
   last item under new business.
   A. Approval of the August 15, 2022 minutes p. 104
   B. Acceptance of the August 2022 receipts of $99.10 p. 111
   C. Approval of the August 2022 disbursements of $8228.90 p. 112

II. New and Miscellaneous Business

III. General Public Comment Period
   The Library Board values public meetings and welcomes your comments on
   Library issues. The Board respectfully asks that comments be made as concisely
   as possible. We welcome your comments but cannot debate items not on the
   agenda. The maximum time for individual speakers should not exceed two
   minutes.

IV. Adjournment
   The next Trust meeting will be held immediately following the next regular
   meeting of the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors on Monday October 17,
   2022

Motion: To adjourn the September 19, 2022 Trust Meeting.

Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the
Library at the number (248) 647-1700 or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to
request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta session pública deben
ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la biblioteca en el número (248) 647-1700 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las
personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual,
auditiva, o de otras asistencias. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).
1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Pisano at 9:14 p.m.

Library Board present: Melissa Mark, Frank Pisano, Karen Rock, Danielle Rumple, Jim Suhay, and Jennifer Wheeler.

Absent and excused: None.

Library Staff present: Rebekah Craft, Director, Jaclyn Miller, Associate Director, and Robert Stratton, Administrative Assistant.

Friends of the Library Liaison present: None.

Contract community representatives present: None.

Members of the public present: None.

2. **Consent Agenda**

   **Motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the Trust minutes, as well as receipts and disbursements.**

   1st Wheeler
   2nd Rock

   A roll call vote was taken.


   Nays: None.

   Absent and excused: None.

   The motion was approved unanimously.

3. **New and Miscellaneous Business:**

   Commenting on the Trust results on page 117 of the August Board packet, Suhay expressed concern about the performance of the portfolio. He suggested the Finance Committee should be more aggressive in looking at performance, and to bring this to the attention of the portfolio manager at Raymond James. Pisano agreed to discuss this with the portfolio manager at a future meeting of the Finance Committee.

4. **General Public Comment Period:** None.

5. **Adjournment:**

   **Motion: To adjourn the meeting.**

   1st Suhay
   2nd Mark


   Nays: None.

   Absent and excused: None.
The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m. The next Trust Meeting will be on Monday, September 19, 2022, following the regular meeting in the Rotary Tribute and Donor Room.

Karen Rock, Secretary

Date
Baldwin Public Library Trust: August 2022

August receipts totaled $99.10. August disbursements totaled $8228.90.

The current value of the Trust is $2,069,504.98, divided up in the following way:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>June 2022 - EOY</th>
<th>August 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total endowment investments*</td>
<td>$1,027,375.78</td>
<td>$1,064,083.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment funds distributed for use</td>
<td>$175,567.25</td>
<td>$171,310.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total endowment funds</td>
<td>$1,202,943.03</td>
<td>$1,235,393.63</td>
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<tr>
<td>General spendable funds</td>
<td>$343,568.43</td>
<td>$352,575.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Dragt fund</td>
<td>$117,388.20</td>
<td>$110,123.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building fund</td>
<td>$309,523.78</td>
<td>$317,683.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds**</td>
<td>$32,226.33</td>
<td>$29,006.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naming rights for Rotary Tribute Room</td>
<td>$9,337.89</td>
<td>$9,337.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naming rights for Burnett Reference Desk</td>
<td>$9,385.65</td>
<td>$9,385.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naming rights for Thal Reference Desk</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total non-endowment funds</td>
<td>$827,430.28</td>
<td>$834,111.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total endowment funds</td>
<td>$1,202,943.03</td>
<td>$1,235,393.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total non-endowment funds</td>
<td>$827,430.28</td>
<td>$834,111.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total of all Trust funds</td>
<td>$2,030,373.31</td>
<td>$2,069,504.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The principal of the endowment funds is $867,197.04
**Includes memorials and donations from the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library

As of August 2022, the amount of money in the Trust that is undesignated stands at $440,076.41
Endowment Funds Portfolio Performance Benchmarks
As of August 31, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>2022: YTD</th>
<th>2021: Entire Year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;P 500-Equity Benchmark (75%)</td>
<td>-17.02%</td>
<td>-15.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Aggregate-Bond Benchmark (25%)</td>
<td>-14.08%</td>
<td>-3.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blended Return of Both Benchmarks*</td>
<td>-16.29%</td>
<td>-18.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldwin Endowment Funds’ Portfolio</td>
<td>-19.3%</td>
<td>-22.05%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Endowment Funds’ Performance Compared to Blended Return of Benchmarks -3.02% -3.13%

*Since November 2017, the blended return has been calculated according to the Baldwin Endowment Funds’ allocation of 75% equities and 25% fixed income, cash, and cash alternatives.

As of April 2020, this report was renamed “Endowment Funds Portfolio Performance Benchmarks,” instead of “Portfolio Performance Benchmarks.” The new title is more accurate, for it states clearly that the comparison between benchmarks and the Baldwin Trust’s performance pertains only to the BPL Trust Endowment Funds Account at Raymond James. It does not take into account the BPL Trust General Funds Account at Raymond James or the Trust’s Huntington Bank checking and money market accounts. The breakdown of the Trust’s various accounts is shown on the “Balances by Financial Institutions Report,” which follows this report in the Board packet. As of August 31, 2022, the breakdown was as follows:

Raymond James Endowment Funds Account $1,077,915.45
Raymond James General Funds Account $621,066.20
Huntington Bank Checking Account $3721.24
Huntington Bank Money Market Account $366,802.09

Total $2,069,504.98

Our Huntington Bank checking account and money market account have no stock or bond investments at all, and are non-volatile. All of the funds donated for the Library’s Youth Room expansion and renovation are in our Huntington Bank money market account and are therefore safe from market fluctuation.
## Investment and Cash Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prior Month</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Change in</th>
<th>Ending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Year to Date</td>
<td>Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/31/22</td>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>Expenses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Huntington Bank Checking:

- **Endowment Money**: $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $85.83, $4,257.07, $85.83, $0.00
- **Van Dragt Fund**: $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $7,265.00, $7,265.00, $7,265.00, $0.00
- **Restricted Funds**: $3,721.09, $0.15, $0.30, $868.07, $3,220.53, $868.07, $3,721.24
- **Restricted Funds - Covid**: $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00
- **Subtotal - Restricted Funds**: $3,721.09
- **General Spendable Funds**: $0.00

**TOTAL**: $3,721.09, $0.15, $0.30, $8,218.90, $15,187.60, $8,218.90, $0.00, $3,721.24

### Huntington Bank Money Market:

- **Endowment Budgeted Funds**: $172,901.90, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, ($85.83), $172,816.07
- **Endowment Investment Funds**: $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00
- **Building Fund**: $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00
- **Van Dragt Fund**: $117,388.20, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, ($7,265.00), $110,123.20
- **Restricted Funds**: $35,022.15, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, ($868.07), $34,154.08
- **Restricted Fund - Covid**: $516.43, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $516.43
- **General Spendable Funds**: $49,186.42, $15.89, $1,632.01, $10.00, $20.00, $0.00, $0.00

**TOTAL**: $375,015.10, $15.89, $1,632.01, $10.00, $20.00, $0.00, ($8,218.90), $366,802.09

### Raymond James & Associates:

- **Endowment Fund Investments**: $1,105,017.32, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, ($35,289.69), $1,069,727.63
- **Endowment Cash**: $8,103.80, $83.06, $83.06, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $8,187.82
- **Sub-total Endowment Funds**: $1,113,121.12, $83.06, $83.06, $0.00, $0.00, ($35,288.73), $1,077,915.45
- **General Spendable Funds Cash**: $376.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.04, $376.04
- **General Spendable Mutual Funds**: $310,658.61, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, ($7,293.48), $303,365.13
- **General Spendable Building Mutual Funds**: $310,658.61, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, ($7,591.17), $303,067.44
- **Sub-total General Spendable Funds**: $635,950.81, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, $0.00, ($14,884.61), $621,066.20

**TOTAL**: $1,749,071.93, $83.06, $83.06, $0.00, $0.00, ($50,173.34), $1,698,981.65

### Total All Funds:

- **Prior Month**: $2,127,808.12, $99.10, $1,715.37, $8,228.90, $15,207.60, $8,218.90, ($8,218.90)
- **Current**: $2,127,808.12, $99.10, $1,715.37, $8,228.90, $15,207.60, $8,218.90, ($8,218.90)
- **Year to Date**: $2,127,808.12, $99.10, $1,715.37, $8,228.90, $15,207.60, $8,218.90, ($8,218.90)
- **Change in Value**: $2,127,808.12, $99.10, $1,715.37, $8,228.90, $15,207.60, $8,218.90, ($8,218.90)
- **Ending Value**: $2,127,808.12, $99.10, $1,715.37, $8,228.90, $15,207.60, $8,218.90, ($8,218.90)
## BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST
### ENDOWMENT BY INDIVIDUAL FUND
#### AUGUST 31, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUND</th>
<th>NAME OF FUND</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>VALUE OF JULY 1, 2022</th>
<th>2022/23 INVESTMENTS</th>
<th>CHANGE IN VALUE</th>
<th>CURRENT VALUE OF JUNE 30, 2023</th>
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<td>$6,311.91</td>
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<td>- Youth Programs</td>
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<td>- Outreach and Equipment</td>
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LIBRY TOTALS:

Total of 6 Checks: 8,218.90
Less 0 Void Checks: 0.00
Total of 6 Disbursements: 8,218.90