



Minutes of Library Board Meeting
November 20, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

President Joneane Parker called the meeting to order at 5:16 pm.

Trustees present: Brenda Diers, Motier Haskins, Joneane Parker, Brandon Nelson and David Thebodo. Sharon Flinspach, Sam Garchik, and Ann Gookin participated via Zoom.

Trustees absent: Sherri Smith

Also present: Director Alecs Schmidt Mickunas

PUBLIC ADDRESS – None

CALL FOR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – No additions to the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER

Trustee Gookin moved to approve the November 20, 2023 minutes as presented. Trustee Haskins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR OCTOBER

Director Schmidt Mickunas explained that the bill for meals for him at the ALA conference was incorrect. The correct value is \$33.95. Trustee Thebodo moved to approve bills for November. Trustee Diers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS –

- A. Matt Jones of FHS Work Study Program – Eleanor, a senior at FHS, is interested in learning about being a librarian. She will be volunteering on Fridays for 1 hour.
- B. Anne Walton of the SE Iowa Sierra Club – The club is interested in collaborating more with the library and wants to plan programs with the library.
- C. Traci Lesnewski of MSR Design – Director Schmidt Mickunas talked with Traci about creating a vision for a renewal or update to the library building. He suggested the updating/remodeling of the children’s area, the smaller study rooms, and the meeting rooms. He also would like to update the outside of the building and repair the leaking skylight. MSR Design designed the current 30-year-old building so they are familiar with the library. Melanie Carlson is interested in the project. Also, Director Schmidt Mickunas will talk with Mayor Boyer about the project. He also would like to re-assess the Volunteer Center/Reference Area as well as removing books from various collections. He stated that the library would not need to be shut down; however, it may need to be closed for a day or two.
- D. Tim Britton -- Director Schmidt Mickunas spoke with Tim, a local musician, about helping outfit the AV room into a musical recording space. This would allow people to record music on their own. The room would be outfitted with appropriate sound proofing to make it an acoustical space.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR (A copy of the report is attached.)

Director Schmidt Mickunas explained the banning of two community members. He shared what their behaviors were and the procedures used to ban them. One patron is banned indefinitely and another is banned for one year.

Director Schmidt Mickunas shared that the library was honored by both the SE Iowa Sierra Club for our educational collaborations and the Cultural Alliance for our new art resources and programs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Proposal to amend Library Addendum with new Library holidays – Trustee Nelson moved to accept the proposal. Trustee Thebodo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- b. Proposal to form 2024-27 Strategic Planning Committee -- Director Schmidt Mickunas stated that the budget is needed in January and President Parker stated that the committee chairs should be planning meetings with their committee. Director Schmidt Mickunas would like a 2024-2027 plan to discuss renewal of the library and a possible capital campaign program. President Parker appointed the chairs of the three committees and Director Schmidt Mickunas to this committee to get started on the plan.
- c. Proposal to form Library Renewal & Capital Campaign Committee – It was agreed to wait for this until some work has been completed by the 2024-2027 Strategic Planning Committee.
- d. Proposal to reinvest MidWest One CD matured 11/16/23 – Director Thebodo moved to have Director Schmidt Mickunas determine the best possible rate for a 9-month CD from local banks and make the decision about where to invest. Director Garchik seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- c. Proposal for Art Award Funding Request from FPL Foundation – Director Thebodo moved to request funding for \$1000 from the foundation to purchase art from local Fairfield Art Association members. Director Diers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

President Parker reminded us that the next meeting will be held on December 4, 2023. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Flinspach
Secretary