

**Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 20, 2022**  
**5:00pm**  
***Rock Island Public Library – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Downtown Library***

**Type of Meeting:** Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

**Meeting Facilitator:** Eudell Watts III

**Call to Order:** President Eudell Watts III called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**Attendance:** Elizabeth Russell, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh, Jo Noon, Deborah Freiburg, Jacki Nelson, Jenni Swanson; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Lisa Lockheart, Publicity/Outreach Liaison; Malachi Kohlwey, Business Office & Facilities Director; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director; Sam Baugous, RIHS Teen Advisory Member

**Absent:** Karen Phillips, Pat Mahar

**Public Comment:** Facilities Director Kohlwey introduced the Libraries' new Custodian/Security Monitor, Kelly Drish. The Board took a moment to welcome Kelly to the Library team!

**Approval of Minutes:** The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of August 16, 2022. Without any additions or corrections, President Watts advised the minutes be approved as written.

**Board Education:** Director Campbell advised that the Board has completed all of its Per Capita Aid training for the year and asked if the Board would like to learn about any other topics.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Committee Reports**

*Finance – Jenni Swanson*

Jenni Swanson made a motion to approve monthly bills for August in the amount of \$ 76,759.78. Jacki Nelson seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 6 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Noon, Freiburg, Nelson, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried. Director Campbell and President Watts advised that they met with the City Manager and City Finance Director for the Library CY 2023 budget review on August 25, 2022, and presented the Board approved budget. Director Campbell added that the presented budget is balanced.

*Buildings and Grounds – Pat Mahar*

No report from this committee.

Personnel & Policy – Debbie Freiburg

Debbie Freiburg advised that the committee will begin working on the Director's evaluation which will take place in November. Debbie added that she is going to ask HR if additional Board members can be added to the performance evaluation software to allow them to work on the evaluation.

Planning & Community Relations – Karen Phillips

No report from this committee.

Art – Pat Mahar

Director Campbell advised that a patron reached out in regards to donating a painting to the Library. After a discussion of the painting, the Board decided not to accept the donation. However, the Library is grateful for the offer!

Foundation – Kathy Lelonek

Foundation Director Lelonek provided an update on the Capital Campaign. Foundation Director Lelonek added that she had led many tours of the ongoing construction project and the tours have been very well received! The next meeting of the Foundation Board will be November 3, 2022, at 4 pm at the Downtown Library.

**Administrator Reports**

Director's Reports & Statistics – Director Campbell advised that the Library did not receive the Illinois Humanities grant; however, it received a generous donation to help cover the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration plans. The Library will be starting its new hours in October in preparation for the Watts-Midtown branch. The Board took a moment to discuss the new hours, and Director Campbell advised that the hours will be re-evaluated in 6 months. Director Campbell asked if the Board had any questions. Jo Noon asked about Library program volunteering opportunities coming up in the fall. Publicity/Outreach Liaison Lockheart advised that the Library will be at Fright Night in the Park and Pumpkin Palooza and would welcome volunteers.

**Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District**

Director Campbell advised that the next Milan Blackhawk Board meeting is on September 22, 2022, at 4 pm at the Southwest Library.

**Unfinished Business**

1. Facilities Director Kohlwey provided an update on the South Parking Lot. The City Council approved the subdivision of the plot at their August 22, 2022 meeting. The Library is working to finalize the agreement with the property owner.

## **New Business**

1. Director Campbell advised that the Christmas and New Year's Holidays for 2023/2024 fall on a Sunday and a Monday and asked the Board what days they would prefer to be closed. Director Campbell provided a couple of options, and after discussion, the Board decided to close the Libraries on the Saturday before the Holiday and observe the holidays on the Monday and Tuesday of the Holiday week. Director Campbell advised that the Board's decision will be voted on at the October 18, 2022, Board meeting.
2. Director Campbell advised that the Library staff and Foundation have been working on creating a "PALS" group that would work with and advocate for the Rock Island Public Library. Director Campbell added that the Foundation would create an agreement with PALS that will list the committee's goals and expectations. The Foundation will create a separate checking account for PALS to be used for its book sales and other events. Yolanda asked who could be a member of the PALS group, and Director Campbell advised that anyone could join; however, there will be a small donation required to be a part of the group.
3. Elizabeth Russell motioned to approve the Rock Island Public Library's Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility Statement. Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 6 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Noon, Freiburg, Nelson, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried. Director Campbell thanked the Library staff and the IDEA committee for working hard to research and develop the statement.

## **Information Sharing**

- Unique Management Reports
- Assessor's Estimated EAV
  - Director Campbell discussed how the Estimated EAV change would affect the Library budget.
- PrairieCat Annual Report
- 2-1-1 Changes
  - Director Campbell advised that the changes won't take effect until next year; however, it will create extra work for the staff.
- Annual Staff Survey Results
  - Director Campbell and the Board discussed the staff survey results.

## **\*Closed Session – Not needed**

**Announcements:** Jacki Nelson announced that the Pints for Preservation event is at the Niabi Zoo on Friday, September 23, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

**Adjournment** – President Watts adjourned the meeting at 5:48 pm.

Next meeting is Tuesday, October 18, at 5:00 pm, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Downtown Library.

Respectfully submitted,  
Malachi Kohlwey, Business Office & Facilities Director