

**Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 21, 2023**  
**5:00 pm**  
***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:** Karen Phillips, Elizabeth Russell, Jo Noon, Jenni Swanson, Deborah Freiburg, Pat Mahar, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Lisa Lockheart, Publicity/Outreach Liaison; Malachi Kohlwey, Business Office & Facilities Director; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director

**Absent:** Jacki Nelson; Sam Baugous, RIHS Teen Advisory Member

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of January 17, 2023, and the meeting minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on February 03, 2023. Without any additions or corrections, President Watts advised the minutes be approved as written.

**Board Education:** Director Campbell presented Chapters 2 and 3 of the *Serving Our Public IL Public Library Standards*. Director Campbell asked if the Board had any questions regarding Board Education.

**Correspondence:** None.

### **Committee Reports**

#### *Finance – Jenni Swanson*

Jenni Swanson motioned to approve monthly bills for January in the amount of \$ 131,371.00. Debbie Freiburg seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried. Jenni Swanson and Director Campbell advised that the Finance Committee met on February 3, 2023, with the City Manager and Finance Director. The committee discussed the reserve funds, Foundation contributions/restrictions, and Director Campbell's presentation to City Council on February 13, 2023.

#### *Buildings and Grounds – Pat Mahar*

The Building and Grounds Committee set a meeting for Friday, March 17, 2023, at 11:00 am in the Watts-Midtown Conference Room to discuss exterior furniture for the Watts-Midtown branch.

Personnel & Policy – Debbie Freiburg

The Personnel & Policy Committee set a meeting for Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 11:00 am in the Watts-Midtown Conference Room for its quarterly policy review.

Planning & Community Relations – Karen Phillips

No report from this committee. Library staff will oversee the planning for the Saturday, March 11, 2023, Grand Opening party at the Watts-Midtown Library.

Art – Pat Mahar

No report from this committee.

Foundation – Kathy Lelonek

Foundation Director Lelonek provided an update on the Capital Campaign. Foundation Director Lelonek advised that the 2023 Food for Thought event will be at Iconic on June 15, 2023, from 5-8 pm.

Additionally, the Foundation will hold a fundraiser that sells a name engraved plate on the auditorium seats at Watts-Midtown for \$300.00 apiece. The next meeting of the Foundation Board will be May 18, 2023, at 4:00 pm at the Downtown Library.

**Administrator Reports**

Director's Reports & Statistics – In addition to the written report and statistics, Director Campbell advised that Library employee Nathan Simmons won our internal Souper Bowl competition! Additionally, Director Campbell added that staff is preparing for the Watts-Midtown grand opening. Director Campbell asked if the Board had any questions.

**Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District**

Director Campbell advised that the next Milan Blackhawk Board meeting is on April 27, 2023, at 4:00 pm at the Southwest Library, and that the first meeting of the state-required Decennial Committee will be the same day at 3:30pm. Director Campbell advised that the Milan-Blackhawk Board has an open position on the Board and asked if the Board members knew of any interested citizens that live in Milan or Blackhawk Township that would be interested in being on the Milan-Blackhawk Board.

**Unfinished Business**

1. Facilities Director Kohlwey provided an update on the South parking lot.
2. After discussion at the Finance Committee meeting, the Library Board advised that the Library will not be able to provide staff bonuses due to it being considered a fringe benefit.

**New Business**

1. Jenni Swanson motioned to approve the board slate of officers for 2023/2024, which included Jenni Swanson as President; Elizabeth Russell as Vice-President; and Debbie Freiburg as Secretary/Treasurer. Karen Phillips seconded the motion. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried.

2. Karen Phillips motioned to approve sealing the Executive Session minutes from the November 15, 2022, Board meeting. Jenni Swanson seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried.
3. Elizabeth Russell motioned to approve disposing of any Executive Session minutes older than 18 months, as allowable by law. Debbie Freiburg seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried.
4. Jenni Swanson motioned to approve the submission of the 2023 Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) to the Illinois State Library. Karen Phillips seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried.
5. Karen Phillips motioned to approve the submission of the Annual Report, as defined by 75 ILCS 5/4-10, to the City of Rock Island. Pat Mahar seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried.
6. Karen Phillips motioned to approve closing the Downtown and Southwest Libraries on Saturday, March 11, 2023, so that all staff can work at the Watts-Midtown branch during the official Grand Opening. Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried.
7. Jenni Swanson motioned to approve canceling the March 21, 2023, Board Meeting due to lack of a quorum. Pat Mahar seconded. After no further discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote: 7 ayes – Grandberry Pugh, Mahar, Freiburg, Phillips, Noon, Swanson, Russell; 0 nays; motion carried.

### **Information Sharing**

- Unique Management Reports
  - Director Campbell advised that the Library will be keeping the large balance collection; however, it will be canceling the small balance collection due to the cost of the service and a low return on investment.
- Master Agenda
  - Director Campbell asked the Board if the Master Agenda needed any changes.

### **\*Closed Session – Not needed**

### **Announcements:**

- The Watts-Midtown Library will be hosting Jenni Swanson’s Ward 4 Town Hall Meeting on March 7, 2023, at 6 pm.

**Adjournment** – President Watts adjourned the meeting at 5:44 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Malachi Kohlwey, Business Office & Facilities Director