

**Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, October 15, 2024**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Rock Island Public Library – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Downtown Library**

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

**Meeting Facilitator:** Elizabeth Russell

**Call to Order:** Vice-President Russell called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

**Attendance:** Deborah Freiburg, Nick Hammond, Jacki Nelson, Jo Noon, Elizabeth Russell, Eudell Watts, III; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Kayla Steffen, Business & Facilities Director, Lisa Lockheart, Publicity & Outreach Liaison.

**Absent:** Jenni Swanson, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry-Pugh, Alethea Quarles; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director.

**Public Comment:** Mike Romkey from the Bucktown Americana Music Show, a folk music program featuring local musicians, attended the meeting to discuss a potential partnership and to answer any questions regarding his program. See *New Business* for more information.

**Approval of Minutes:** Trustee Nelson made a motion to approve the Board of Trustees minutes from September 17, 2024. Trustee Watts seconded the motion. Trustee Russell took a voice vote. All ayes, no nays. Motion carries.

**Board Education:** None.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Committee Reports:**

*Finance – Jenni Swanson (absent)*

- Trustee Noon made a motion to approve monthly bills for September in the amount of \$63,337.75. Trustee Freiburg seconded. Trustee Russell took a roll call vote. All ayes, no nays. Motion carries.
- Director Campbell received the EAV from the state.
- Review Quarterly Financial Statements - The Q3 summary looks financially sound.

*Art & Facilities–Jacki Nelson*

- CDBG Bathroom Remodel/Radon Remediation – Angela and Kayla will meet with City Staff regarding the release of the RFP for the bathroom renovations. Radon levels are currently being retested. Once those come back satisfactory the radon mitigation will be complete.
- Set meeting to discuss upcoming Master Planning RFP, Bathroom Renovations, and more!
- The next Arts & Facilities Committee Meeting is set for Nov 19th at 4pm, at the Downtown Library.

*Personnel & Policy – Debbie Freiburg*

- Committee Meeting: Friday, December 6, 11:30am at Watts-Midtown.
- Policy review at the meeting will include: Behavior, Circulation, Collection Development, Meeting Room, Programming, and Workplace Regulations.
- Director's Evaluation discussion - If any trustees need assistance with submitting the evaluation, contact Trustee Freiburg or Angela Rasmussen from HR.

*Planning & Community Relations—Dr. Yolanda Grandberry-Pugh*

- Next Meeting: Monday, November 4, at 4pm at Watts-Midtown

**Foundation Updates – Kathy Lelonek:**

- Next Meeting: November 14, 2024 at 4:00pm at the Downtown Library.
- The PALS book sale is October 25-26. Last one of 2024!
- Birdies for Charity had 53 donors and \$12K was raised.
- A Brissman Foundation grant request was submitted for vision-impairment equipment at SW.
- The library was named as a 1/3-beneficiary to Leonard Boss's estate.

**Administrator Reports:**

- Director's Report
- Union contract negotiations in process
- Statistics – Not available until November meeting
- Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District
  - Next Regular Meeting – January 23, 2025 at 4pm at the Southwest Branch

**Unfinished Business:**

1. Art Curation Project – While visiting an out-of-area library, Director Campbell found an interesting idea for displaying public art and will investigate in the coming months.
2. The Attendance Policy is not complete yet.
3. Trustee Noon made a motion to create an ad-hoc Technology Committee of the Board. Trustees Nelson seconded. Trustee Hammond reported the city's wifi speed and frequent replacement of hardware as key issues for this committee. Trustee Russell took a voice vote. All ayes, no nays. Motion carries. Trustee Hammond volunteered to be the chair. Additional board members may join the committee at the next regular board meeting.

**New Business:**

1. Trustees were encouraged to review their committee assignments for discussion at the next meeting.
2. Bucktown Americana Music Show - The board discussed the potential partnership with Mike Romkey. He would like to host the Bucktown Americana Music Show in the Watts-Midtown Community Room once per month, on the third Friday from 7-9pm, with the first show being in May 2025. The board discussed policy concerns that would be noncompliant by this partnership, such as admission fees and after-hour scheduling. Due to the benefits for the library, such as potential new patrons and a PALS refreshment table for fundraising purposes, the board is willing to consider the partnership.

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve waiving sections of the Community Room Policy to accommodate a new partnership with the Bucktown Americana Music Show. Trustee Nelson seconded. Trustee Watts recommended amending the motion to include a trial period for the show. Trustee Freiburg retracted her original motion, and Trustee Nelson retracted her second. Trustee Freiburg and made a new motion to approve waiving sections of the Community Room

Policy to accommodate a trial period in May 2025 with the Bucktown Americana Music Show. Trustee Nelson seconded. Trustee Russell took a roll call vote. 5 Ayes, Nelson, Noon, Watts, Freiburg, and Hammond; 0 Nays; 3 Absent, Swanson, Grandberry-Pugh, and Quarles. Motion carries.

**Information Sharing:**

- Board Contact Info & Terms
- Board Standing Committees
- Unique Management Reports
- CREW Climate Prep Information
- The Great River Quilt Show is October 18-19 - Trustee Noon has art in the show!

**Executive Session:** None.

**Announcements:**

- Next Board Meeting – November 19, 2024 at 5pm, Downtown Library

**Adjournment:** Trustee Freiburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:46pm. Trustee Nelson seconded. Trustee Russell took a voice vote. All ayes, no nays. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kayla Steffen  
Business & Facilities Director