

Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 5pm

Type of Meeting: Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Jenni Swanson

President Swanson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Attendance: Deborah Freiburg, Nick Hammond, Jacki Nelson, Jo Noon, Aleatha Quarles, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh, Elizabeth Russell, Jenni Swanson, Eudell Watts, III; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Lisa Lockheart, Marketing Manager.

There was no public comment.

Trustee Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Nelson seconded. Without any further discussion, President Swanson took a voice vote. 8 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carries.

Director Campbell gave an update on future iLEAD Board training, stating that the coordinator will be at the May 20th Board meeting to provide an overview and answer any questions.

Correspondence from Mr. Paul Garcia was shared.

Committee Reports

Finance – Jenni Swanson

- President Swanson made a motion to approve monthly bills for February 2025 in the amount of \$28,223.37. Trustee Freiburg seconded. Without any further discussion, President Swanson took a roll call vote. 8 ayes, Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Grandberry Pugh, Russell, Watts, III; no nays. Motion carries.

Art & Facilities – Jacki Nelson

- Director Campbell provided an update on the first-floor bathroom remodel, stating that procurement of supplies and fixtures is taking longer than expected, and that the estimated start date is sometime in May.
- Board members asked for an update about patron incidents. President Swanson shared that there has been a 26% increase in incidents over last year's numbers during the December through February timeframe. She also shared that the temporary homeless shelter will be closing on April 15, as planned. Dr. Grandberry Pugh spoke with Rev. Dwight Ford, Director of ProjectNow about comments made at a recent City Council meeting. They agreed that communication is key, and will work to set up a meeting between the directors of both organizations.
- President Swanson shared that she commends the staff on remaining empathetic, yet professional, during these hard times.

Personnel & Policy – Debbie Freiburg

- Trustee Freiburg announced that the committee needs to meet for quarterly policy review. She shared her schedule, and a meeting was set for a ½ hour prior to the next Board meeting on April 15th.
- Director Campbell shared that Business Office & Facilities Director, Kayla, had recently resigned, and that they are actively recruiting for a replacement.

Planning & Community Relations – Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh

- Director Campbell presented the Annual Report and Strategic Plan to City Council March 10th.
- The Committee will be more active in the future, once master facilities planning begins.

Technology Ad-hoc Committee – Nick Hammond

- Director Campbell shared that the firewall was still on order. She will provide updates as they become available.

Foundation Updates – Kathy Lelonek

- Foundation Director Lelonek was not present at the meeting. Director Campbell reminded the Board of a combined meeting with the Foundation on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 4:00pm at Huckleberry's. This meeting will include an overview of the most recent audit, a celebration of paying off the Watts-Midtown project, and looking towards the future of fundraising for our Downtown Library renovations.

Administrator Reports

- Director Campbell provided updates from her packet report, as well as an overview of current statistics.
- The Milan-Blackhawk Library District will hold its regular meeting on April 24, 2025 at 4pm at the Southwest Branch.

Unfinished Business

- The Art Curation Project was approved for an Arts Dollars grant from Quad City Arts. Director Campbell will receive a contract soon, and will begin working with artist, David Zahn, on getting appropriate hardware, scheduling shows, etc.

New Business

- President Swanson presented the 2025-2026 nominee Slate of Officers as:
 - President, Jenni Swanson
 - Vice-President, Elizabeth Russell
 - Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh

She asked for any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, this slate will be voted on at the April 15th meeting. Nominations can still be submitted until that time.

- President Swanson asked if there were any proposed Bylaws revisions. Director Campbell requested that the Board create an "Emeritus" Board member, who could be voted in by any sitting board. Stipulations would require that nominees have served three, three-year contiguous Board cycles. The consensus was for Director Campbell to add this language for the next meeting.
- Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve the director working with US Bank to update the library's safe deposit box contract. Trustee Nelson seconded. Director Campbell explained that

there were outdated staff members listed on the current contract that needed removed. US Bank requested that Director Campbell receive Board action to have the authority to remove their names and add any new names in the future. Without any further discussion, President Swanson took a roll call vote. 8 ayes, Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Grandberry Pugh, Russell, Watts, III; no nays. Motion carries.

- Trustee Noon made a motion to accept the recommended bid from Cordogan Clark for the Downtown Master Plan. Trustee Grandberry Pugh seconded. Director Campbell explained that they were the lowest, responsible bidder, and ticked all the boxes in the RFP. She also shared that they were within the Day Foundation Grant allotment. Without any further discussion, President Swanson took a roll call vote. 8 ayes, Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Grandberry Pugh, Russell, Watts, III; no nays. Motion carries.

Information Sharing

- Board Contact Info & Terms
- Board Standing Committees
- Unique Management Reports
- Youth Service Institute reports

An Executive Session was not needed.

Announcements

- Next Board Meeting – April 15, 2025 at 5pm, Downtown Library
- REMINDER: Joint meeting with the RIPL Foundation on Thursday, May 8th, at 4pm, at Huckleberry's.
- REMINDER: April 8th is "Library Workers' Day." Please deliver items Downtown by 10:30am.

With no further business, President Swanson adjourned the meeting at 5:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Angela Campbell
Library Director