

Rock Island Public Library Board
Community & Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 4:00pm

Rock Island Public Library – Watts-Midtown Branch

2715 30th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201

Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

In Attendance: Board President Jenni Swanson, Committee Chair Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh, Trustee Jo Noon, and Trustee Elizabeth Russell. Staff in attendance included Lisa Lockheart, Marketing Manager; Daniel Cuneo, Business & Facilities Director; Angela Campbell, Library Director; and Foundation Director, Kathy Lelonek.

Absent: Trustee Quarles.

There was no public comment.

Old Business – Strategic Plan

The Committee discussed ways to communicate strategic plan successes. It was recommended that Director Campbell provide the City Council an update on plan progress.

In addition to communicating the plan, the committee discussed budgeting for next year's objectives and tasks. Tasks that will need specific budget attention include: hiring a social worker, ADA signage upgrades, noise cancelling headphones, additional communicators, and master plan capital projects. Director Campbell will keep these items top of list and discuss them at the upcoming meeting with the City Finance Team.

New Business - Communicating the final Master Plan

Director Campbell reviewed the current status of the restrooms and CDBG projects. The more capital items completed prior to implementing the master plan, the less money the library and foundation will have to fundraise.

The committee discussed the possibility of phasing the project and how that would affect the public while being closed during construction. Director Campbell pointed out that if the money was available, it would be better to just do the plan all at once, due to cost savings.

The committee spent the bulk of their time talking about grants and fundraising opportunities for implementing the master plan. Among the many ideas, President Swanson mentioned the city's Riverways designation, and how that might be a grant possibility down the road. Director Campbell discussed the Public Library Construction Act Grant, which would provide the bulk of the funding, if awarded.

Director Campbell asked the Foundation if they wanted to hire a consultant for the capital campaign. The group discussed fundraising strategies and felt that hiring a consultant may not be needed, depending on grant awards. Foundation Director Lelonek suggested doing a public event to share the plan, inviting the Day Foundation Board, so that they can see how much their grant positively affected

the library's plans. The public would also be invited to the event to learn more about the Downtown Library's renovation plans. Directors Campbell & Lelonek will work on this event, aiming for a winter release of the master plan.

There was no other business.

A closed session was not needed.

Information Sharing:

- Lisa shared that September is library card signup month.

Announcements:

- Dr. Grandberry Pugh thanked Emily for coming to her classroom on Thursday, and that she will be speaking to 158 students!

With no further business, Dr. Grandberry Pugh adjourned the meeting at 4:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Campbell
Library Director