

DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 21, 2022 MEETING

Steve Imming, President of the Davenport Public Library Board of Trustees, called the monthly meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. The meeting was held in the Large Meeting Room of the Main Library.

A roll call of Trustees showed that Malavika Shrikhande, Sylvia Roba, Amanda Motto, Naghme Motto, Judie Lance, Craig Cooper and Steve Imming were all present in-person or via Go To Meeting. Tom Engelmann arrived at 12:01 p.m. Absent: Joe Heinrichs. Others present: Jeff Collins, Library Director; Lexie Reiling, Assistant Library Director; Kasey Shipley, recorder; Jennifer Williams, HR Operations Manager; Tracy Moore, Development Officer; Marion Meginnis, City Council Liaison; and, Jerry Skalak, President of the FRIENDS of the Library Board.

Engelmann motioned to approve the consent agenda with a second by Shrikhande. A roll call vote was taken and Shrikhande, Roba, A. Motto, N. Motto, Lance, Engelmann, Cooper and Imming all approved for the motion to carry.

Public with Comment: No one signed in to submit comments.

FRIENDS Report: Skalak reported the FRIENDS approved up to \$15,000 annually for the next three years to support Patron Point software and implementation. The group is actively pursuing an unpaid pledge from the Main Renovation project in the amount of \$20,000. In June, they paid \$18,600 for support to the Library for such things as literacy programming, Celebrate the Printed Word, support staff and Books for Babies. The July meeting will include a thorough update of investment holdings from Quad City Bank & Trust. He invited any Trustees to the meeting if they are interested in attending.

Finance: Engelmann noted that on the budget recap document that covers 91% of the fiscal year, spending is at about 89-90% spent and stated Collins is doing a good job with money flow. He pointed out the balance of the levy fund is at the bottom of that report each month.

Personnel: A. Motto reported there will be a change to the evaluation process for Collins due to the fact the City requires a six-month evaluation. They will move up what would have been a 9-month/annual evaluation in November and do it at the August meeting. Williams will send a staff survey in July and A. Motto will survey the Board with an August 10 deadline so data can be compiled.

Advocacy: Shrikhande had no update on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion team as she was unable to attend that meeting last month. There is a possible partnership or association with the Figge on an upcoming exhibit. She will share more with staff when known.

Director's Report: Collins provided an update to the construction on Main next to the Library in the former drive-up bank. A contractor will be demolishing it soon and will use water to keep the dust down and stay within the noise ordinance times of 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. The developer is seeking to build 120 units in a four-story building with no on-site parking. The City does not require that in downtown with new development so there may be issues with patrons finding a parking space near the Library if residents are using the spaces. It will need to be monitored. Meginnis doesn't believe the plan has come to Planning & Zoning. She also recommended becoming familiar with the Parking Ambassadors that patrol for parking violations. Collins also updated the Trustees on the Teen Summer Drag Brunch

event. To date, a total of around 65 negative comments and 25 positive comments have been received. Around five were addressed to the Library Board and he will forward those. From his written report, Collins confirmed that the Tier 3 accreditation is based on the public library standards document, per Shrikhande's question. Shrikhande noted that Rock Island Public Library is using Google translate on their website. The Eastern café Request for Proposal will be on the City's website and that process is still being worked out behind the scenes. Engelmann wanted to say he is sorry that Collins and the staff are taking the brunt of negative comments from those upset about the drag queen and king program. He understands that people have different opinions but some go beyond just expressing their thoughts. From questions Meginnis raised, Collins noted that some of the comments seem to not be from this community in looking at IP addresses. News media reports and social media postings have widened the scope of people hearing about it. Engelmann inquired about any safety concerns at the event knowing that the groups presenting canceled another event that was similar due to threats. Collins noted there will be one or two off-duty police officers providing security the day of the event. Plans are also in place on where protestors, if present, will be able to express their First Amendment right on or near the Library property. Police and Legal have been consulted on that matter. Imming encouraged the Trustees to memorize, or become familiar with, the Library's mission and vision statements. Imming also wanted to say he appreciates the Library Stories at the end of his report. Shrikhande also heard from a PEO group that enjoys meeting at Eastern.

Council Liaison Report: Meginnis reported the City is seeking a Destination Iowa grant. The State is awarding a combined \$15 million to one large community and one small community. This grant request would likely concentrate on downtown and tourism. The vote to approve a contract with Sasaski for architectural and engineering of Main St Landing is on the agenda this week for Council. Meginnis hopes it goes forward but there are some on Council not in favor of the plan. This firm has designed parks that flood; she named Cincinnati as an example. The conversion of one-way streets to two-way will come to the Council sometime this summer. Federal funding to repair 3rd and 4th Streets from Telegraph to Harrison was awarded on those being one-ways. Changing the traffic flow may impact that funding, so that is being investigated by staff. Party in the Parks is going well with the first two having taken place. She thanked the Library staff for the research help on the parks that she shares at each location. With the high school graduations that took place downtown earlier this month, she believes that happening annually in the downtown may be an opportunity for it to be a big event bringing families downtown. Shrikhande's daughter graduated this year and she did say some families weren't happy since the number of tickets was limited to 6.

New Business: Imming noted the first item of new business is to review and discuss the Bulletin Board/Community Board Posting Policy. This policy is up for review as part of the three-year cycle. Collins said the name change is the first proposed change by leadership staff; change to Community Posting Policy so it includes other posting locations within or on Library grounds and not just the bulletin board. He pointed out the removal of "no signs which advocate political beliefs, religious beliefs, or other belief systems will be posted" as the statement is in contrast to the Library Bill of Rights which is noted at the top that the Library ascribes to that document. An added line includes that materials must meet existing laws on obscenity, libel, defamation of character and invasion of privacy, and be free of discrimination. He did point out that this is written as policy and procedure, which is out of the norm when procedure is separate from policy. It does make it easier to communicate the process to patrons when it is all in one document. Another added bullet includes a limit of 30 days since there is limited space on the boards. Collins answered a question on political signs endorsing a candidate for office versus political beliefs as a flyer. He also addressed a question on the request by a contractor or vendor to place a sign and that must be approved by the Library Director. The second item of new business is to

discuss the Behavior Policy and the Loitering Policy. The change suggested to the Behavior Policy is editing the bullet point referring to eating or drinking being prohibited in areas not designed for these activities. "Eating or drinking in the Special Collections and Makerspace Area" would be the wording so that it allows those activities to take place outside of those locations. It is being responsive to patrons needs, and there are already food and drink messes being cleaned up by staff. If it doesn't work out over the next six months or year, it can be rolled back to exclude those actions. For the Loitering Policy, it is felt by many leadership staff to be somewhat discriminatory, especially to those experiencing homelessness. Most loitering concerns can be addressed through the existing Behavior Policy. Collins gave examples; if someone is harassing another Library user, soliciting funds, sleeping, etc, those are prohibited behaviors in the Behavior Policy. Although not red-lined, the proposal is to eliminate the Loitering Policy. Meginnis asked about smoking on Library property which is not on the Behavior Policy. Collins replied that adding a line stating things that are against the law was proposed, but staff believed that went without having to state it in policy. There is also a Library policy that addresses smoking. This may be something to tie into the Behavior Policy.

Old Business: The first item of old business is to approve the Code of Ethics for Trustees which was discussed at the last meeting, Imming stated. Engelmann moved to approve with a second by Roba. In discussion, Imming noted it would be signed by all current Trustees and any newly or reappointed Trustees in the future. In a roll call vote, Roba, A. Motto, N. Motto, Lance, Engelmann, Cooper, Shrikhande and Imming approved to carry the motion. The second item of old business was to approve the changes to the Bylaws. Those changes include edits in Article I, Section 6 and Section 7; Article VII, Section 1 and 2. Shrikhande motioned to approve with a second by Engelmann. There was no discussion and a roll call vote took place. A. Motto, N. Motto, Lance, Engelmann, Cooper, Shrikhande, Roba and Imming all approved.

Board Training (12:50-1:07 p.m.): Amber Carlson, Youth Services Librarian, introduced the four members of the Teen Advisory Board, who will share some information on what the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) does and how they became a member. Bella Kuta, Holly Dalman, Megan Sterbenz and Isaac McKinley all shared some background information on themselves, what drew them to TAB and some of their favorite activities they've participated in at the Library, or virtually, through TAB. Two of the members advocated for the return of the Library Student Clerk Aide position, stating it would be a nice option for teen students to have the opportunity to work in the Library. Shrikhande stated that the TAB members in attendance are wonderful ambassadors for the Library and there were many thanks from other Trustees to the TAB members for their service to, and support, of the Library. Meginnis asked about the connection between school libraries and the public library. McKinley said there wasn't much at Sudlow other than a poster for National History Day directing students to the Library for resources. Dalman said there was information in the North High School library promoting Summer Reading with reading logs, signs and more, when she turned her computer in last month. Collins asked Emily Simpao, Youth Services Supervisor, to share information on some partnerships the Library does have with Davenport Schools. She shared that Carlson has regular book clubs at many of the junior high schools and occasionally works with smaller groups in book clubs at the high schools. The Library also does Battle of the Books with all the Davenport schools. Summer learning sites are participating in the Summer Reading Program. First grade tours were completed at all of the schools this year by using the OWL to take items and library cards to those students. Davenport School students can also access online materials without a library card through SORA. Shrikhande pointed out that Carlson came to the high school open houses held for middle schoolers transitioning to the high school last year. Information was shared with parents and students on what the Library has to offer at those events.

President's Comments: Imming wanted to take this time to recognize and thank Naghme "Maggie" Motto for her service on the Library Board. She had left the call to get to another meeting, but he will take the card, certificate and gift to her.

Engelmann motioned to adjourn at 1:09 p.m. with a second by Cooper. Lance, Engelmann, Cooper, Shrikhande, Roba, A. Motto and Imming all approved and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kasey Shipley, recorder