

Algonquin Area Public Library District Board of Trustees Meeting
2600 Harnish Drive, Algonquin, Illinois
December 13, 2023
7:00 pm

The Board of Trustees of the Algonquin Area Public Library District met on Wednesday December 13, 2023 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held at the Main Library located at 2600 Harnish Drive, Algonquin, Illinois.

All packet documents were made available on or before the day of the meeting and an agenda was posted online and in both libraries forty-eight hours prior to the meeting.

Call to Order

President Taylor called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Roll Call

In attendance: Trustee Johnson, Trustee Kennealy, Trustee Becker, President Taylor, Treasurer Pelke, Vice President Medrano-Sanchez, and Secretary Sharkey

Staff present: Executive Director Murray, Assistant Director-Public Services Parmele, Assistant Director-Operations Husak, Erin Maiero, Henry Sadowski, Anne Kunzen, Kristen McCallum, Kate Cundiff, and Sam Chiappone

Audience to Visitors

No visitors were present.

Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the November 15, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
- b) Approval of the November 28, 2023 Truth in Taxation Hearing Minutes
- c) Approval of the November 28, 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- d) Approval of November 2023 Financial Statement

With no questions from the trustees, Treasurer Pelke moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the corrected date for the November 28, 2023 Truth in Taxation and Special Meetings which were listed incorrectly on the agenda as November 27, 2023. Trustee Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Approval of December 2023 Disbursements

With no questions or comments from the trustees, Treasurer Pelke moved to approve the December 2023 disbursements and Secretary Sharkey seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote:

Ayes: Becker, Johnson, Kennealy, Medrano-Sanchez, Pelke, Sharkey, Taylor

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Acceptance of the Audited Financial Statement for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

President Taylor reminded the trustees that Nick Bava from Sikich discussed the audit at the Budget and Personnel Committee Meeting on November 6, 2023. Trustee Johnson asked a question about the general ledger. With no further questions, Treasurer Pelke moved to accept the Audited Financial Statement for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2023 and Trustee Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote:

Ayes: Becker, Johnson, Kennealy, Medrano-Sanchez, Pelke, Sharkey, Taylor

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Approval of Certificate of Status of Exempt Property

President Taylor reminded the Board that this is reviewed annually. Executive Director Murray explained that the Certificate arrived today. Secretary Sharkey moved to approve the Certificate of Status and Exempt Property and Trustee Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Approval of Policies

At their meeting on November 28, 2023, the Policy Committee recommended approval of policies PM 106: Employee Categories, PM 302: Bereavement, PM 310: VESSA, PM 705: Sick Leave, and PM 717: :Low Hour Paid Leave. Trustee Becker seconded the motion from the Policy Committee. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote:

Ayes: Becker, Johnson, Kennealy, Medrano-Sanchez, Pelke, Sharkey, Taylor

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Approval of updates to Policy 3015: Collection Management was added to the agenda after Executive Director Murray received clearer guidance on how to meet the requirements under the new “Ban on Book Bans” law. Vice President Medrano-Sanchez asked for clarification on the funding portion of the change. Executive Director Murray explained that in order to receive grant funding from the State of Illinois, the library must formally adopt the ALA Bill of Rights or the library would need to explicitly include suggested wording in our collection policy that the Library would not withdraw materials from the collection merely because of an objection by an individual or group. Trustee Kennealy asked why this was not discussed at the Policy Committee Meeting and Executive Director Murray explained that an email was received from ILA after the meeting clarifying the new requirements. Trustee Becker feels this is a restrictive bad policy that does not allow for the protection that the children need. He also shared a short story to provide context to his response that the policy assumes that children are just small adults and he disagrees with that strongly. Vice President Medrano-Sanchez shared a story regarding her family and her concerns with having to agree with this to receive funding from the State. President Taylor clarified that the new wording is very close to the policy we have in place now. Trustee Johnson reminded the group that a review system is in place. Treasurer Pelke stated that he believes the Library is a fortress of the First Amendment. Treasurer Pelke is also supportive of the materials review system and believes that it is up to the individual to choose the material they are interested in, and to walk by the materials they are not interested in. Vice President Medrano-Sanchez doesn't believe the library should police the materials the library provides access to. Trustee Kennealy made a motion to approve the policy as it is written and Trustee Johnson seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote:

Ayes: Johnson, Kennealy, Pelke, Sharkey, Taylor

Nays: Becker, Medrano-Sanchez

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Eastgate Branch Renovation Project Update

Executive Director Murray shared the update in the Staff Reports portion of the Board Packet. The larger window option was selected for design based on the Board's request to solicit staff comment for the decision. Some of the staff comments were shared in the board packet. The Friends space at Eastgate is cleared out, and some additional furniture will be repurposed. Vice President Medrano-Sanchez suggested that we offer leftover items to local schools. Bookends are in need and will be given to schools that have requested any extras we might have. Executive Director Murray is working on documentation needed to receive the \$100,000 DCEO grant. The federal budget is still pending, but Executive Director Murray is working on other options. Executive Director Murray continues to investigate other grants and is working on energy rebates with the team at Tri-Merit. A meeting is scheduled with the architects to discuss furniture alternates, and we will look at what is needed and what is available at the Branch.

Staff Reports

Executive Director Murray shared the special gift for the Friends. The shadow box contains a portion of carpet from the Friends area and a wood engraved ornament enclosed. The annual Chamber of Commerce awards event will be held on January 20 at Boulder Ridge, but we are not on the award recipient list. We will be attending the event as well as

the Cabin Fever Expo on February 24, 2024. Trustee Johnson inquired about opportunities for the Trustees to attend functions.

Legislative meet-ups were held in Rochelle and Northbrook on November 29 and December 5, 2023, respectively. Assistant Directors Parmele and Husak joined Executive Director Murray at the lunch event in Rochelle. Assistant Director Husak and Executive Director Murray attended the morning meet up in Northbrook where we sat with Senator McConchie's representative.

Recognition awards were distributed to our 5 year, 10 year, and 25 year award recipients at our annual Longevity Awards event. This year we enjoyed the catered breakfast at our Eastgate Branch.

The winter reading program has begun and runs through January 26, 2024. This year's theme is *Get Yeti to Read*. The ice carving program was canceled due to expected inclement weather and will be rescheduled.

Trustee Kennealy asked for clarification of marketing attendance for November of 2023 when compared to November 2022. Executive Director Murray explained with the staffing change, new methods of advertising programs are being used with success. Trustee Kennealy asked if credit card charges for Trustee Development represented costs from the conference attendance, and Executive Director Murray confirmed that information. Trustee Kennealy inquired about hiring a grant writer or researcher. Vice President Medrano-Sanchez recognized that not all grants may fit our needs. Trustee Johnson asked if any library has staff that works on grant writing specifically.

Trustee Johnson asked if we have held a One Book One Community at our library, and Trustee Becker asked for an explanation about the program. Secretary Sharkey shared that the school has done similar projects.

Find More Illinois information was shared in the memo. CCS is sponsoring our costs for the year with the assistance of a grant.

Committee Reports

Budget and Personnel: Nothing to report

Facilities: Nothing to report

Policy: The Policy Committee met on November 28, 2023 to discuss the policies on this meeting's agenda. Executive Director Murray will be in touch with Chairperson Medrano-Sanchez about meeting in January.

Trustee Reports

Secretary Sharkey had nothing to report.

Vice President Medrano-Sanchez wished happy holidays and noted she is very upset about issues with construction at her home.

Trustee Becker reviewed Facebook and would like to suggest that our agenda be posted on social media. He shared information about an open mic night at another library as a potential program. Miracle on Main was nice, and parking was crowded. He asked if staff is provided a pension plan and Executive Murray noted our participation in IMRF.

Treasurer Pelke reminded trustees about Executive Director Murray's upcoming evaluation. He is happy that the hot water heater at the Branch was replaced in advance of the renovation.

Trustee Kennealy asked if there was any update to the impending Algonquin State Bank sale and if the meeting had been scheduled with St. Margaret Mary to discuss safety plan? Executive Director Murray responded with no update to the banking issue and the meeting has not yet been scheduled to discuss the safety plan.

Trustee Johnson enjoyed the "Best Holiday Songs You have Never Heard" Program.

President Taylor shared a compliment to the Makerspace from her child's art teacher.

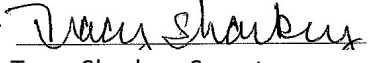
Correspondence

An additional folder of 17 property assessment appeals was included in the board packet.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by President Taylor at 8:16 pm.

APPROVED: 
Lindsay Taylor, President

ATTEST 
Tracy Sharkey, Secretary