

Parlin-Ingersoll Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes for June 15, 2022—4:00 p.m.

A.) Call to Order

Present: Andrea Barbknecht, Kim Freiley, Chris Leighton, Trygve Meade, Rhonda Vogel, Keely Vollmar

Absent: Jana Emmons, Cathy Ludlum, Kevin Meade

B.) Approval of Previous Minutes:

Approved Motion: Hearing no objections or corrections, the May 18, 2022 minutes for Meeting #1 were approved by unanimous vote. (Motion: R. Vogel; Second: C. Leighton).

Approved Motion: Hearing no objections or corrections, the May 18, 2022 minutes for Meeting #2 were approved by unanimous vote. (Motion: K. Freiley; Second: R. Vogel).

C.) Public Comments

There were no public comments.

D.) Communications

Update on Staff Vacancies

Kim Bunner is still looking for applicants for the Maintenance Worker position. Marin Hilton, one of the new hires for the page shelving position, was let go due to an inability to perform the work in an accurate and timely manner. Replacement interviews are being done this week.

Censorship Challenges

Kim Bunner shared information about a group challenging libraries in the northern part of Illinois. The group was encouraging patrons to check out books from Pride displays and keep them to prevent others from having access to such materials. Challenges are increasing across the country, especially in school libraries.

First Tax Settlement Sheet Received

The library has received its first distribution of tax monies from Tax Year 2021. The amount is \$66,269.79.

Cincinnati Insurance Update

Kim Bunner met with Bill Bequeaith and Steven Clark of Town and Country Insurance. The library has paid the premiums for this year, but Bill Bequeaith noted Cincinnati Insurance will probably increase the

amount of coverage for our building in the next year. Replacement materials for our building have increased in value. He expected an increase in premiums of as much as \$1,200 next year.

Donation in memory of Larry Vaughn

The library has received \$1,070 in memorial donations for Larry Vaughn. He and his wife, Ruth, were avid users of the library books on CD collection. Purchases will be made for this collection in non-fiction history and works by Garrison Keillor.

Open Meetings Act Certificates

Kim Bunner reminded trustees to give completed training certificates to her for the library files.

Director's Activities in May 2022

Director activities in May: Zoom City Council Meeting for Trustee Appointments, Westview Wild About Learning Rotary Event, Rural Directors Meeting, Rotary Board Meeting; Rotary Regular Meetings

E.) Director's Report

1.) Consent Agenda for May 2022

Approved Motion: The board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda for May 2022 (Motion: A. Barbknecht; Second: K. Vollmar).

2.) COVID-19 Updates

Kim Bunner reviewed the current infection rates for Fulton County. The CDC has recommended masking in public places, but the governor has not required masking. The library has not imposed any restrictions and has not had any public comments.

3.) Public Act 102-0843 for Option of No Non-resident Fee for those under age 18 years

This law allows library trustees the option of issuing free cards to non-resident children under the age of 18. While the library currently does not charge a non-resident fee for children ages 3-grade 12 per the Cards for Kids Act, this option would not rest that decision on the receipt of the Community Eligibility Grant by Canton Union School District 66 related to free and reduced lunch eligibility.

The Board currently issues cards for children at the age of 3. The Board discussed the importance of promoting reading to all children, whether they are residents or non-residents. Circulation staff will monitor the use of cards for materials to be used by the children.

Approved Motion: The board voted unanimously to approve issuing free cards to all children under the age of 18 years whether residents of the City of Canton or non-residents. (Motion: C. Leighton; Second: K. Freiley).

4.) Transfer of Monies at Mid America National Bank

The Board discussed the possibility of transferring money from the library reserve money market account into funds with a better interest rate. Chris Leighton spoke about rate changes coming soon and perhaps the Board might want to wait to see if a better rate might be coming in the next month before investing monies for 1-2 year periods. The Board decided to table this issue until next month.

5.) New Director Search

Earlier today the Board conducted initial interviews with Aubrey Brooks and Jessica Sparenberg in closed session.

Approved Motion: The board voted unanimously to offer the job to Jessica Sparenberg (Motion: T. Meade; Second: K. Vollmar).

Trygve Meade and Keely Vollmar will meet with her on Monday, June 20, 2022, to discuss salary, reimbursement for work on an ALA-accredited Masters in Library Science, and a degree completion timeline. The Board agreed on a yearly reimbursement of \$5,200 for classes completed with a grade of B or higher. In addition, she would be offered the minimum salary of \$65,000 beginning July 1st with her title being Deputy Director until Kim Bunner retires on December 31, 2022. Final details will be made in an official employment letter after the meeting on June 20th.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. (Motion: T. Meade; Second: C. Leighton).

Attest: _____
Secretary

Date: _____