

Carbondale Public Library Board of Trustees

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

4:30 p.m.

Meeting Room
405 West Main St.

MINUTES

Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Roll call.

Introductions, audience and visitors. Visitors are asked to introduce themselves at this time and present any issues they wish to discuss. Visitors wishing to address specific agenda items will be granted two to five minutes at the discretion of the President, not to exceed a total of twenty minutes. The Library Board may cut short any comments that are irrelevant, repetitious, or disruptive. (Id. at 1425-26).

Present.

Philip Brown, President
Susan Tulis, Secretary
Don Prosser, Treasurer
Joyce Hayes (1)
Roland Person

Absent.

Barbara Levine, Vice President (2)
Julian Pei (3 excused)
Sharifa Stewart (3)
Harriet Simon (1)

The number following the Trustee's name indicates the number of absences this fiscal year.

Staff present.

Diana Brawley Sussman, Library Director
Gwen Hall, Finance Manager

Visitors present.

None.

President's report.

1. Oaths of Office by the President to Don Prosser, Roland Person, Joyce Hayes, Susan Tulis. Oath of Office administered by the Secretary to Philip Brown.
2. Committee appointments. President Philip Brown took on the position of ethics officer and made no changes to the previous committee appointments

Secretary's report.

1. Approval of the June 11, 2014 minutes. Don Prosser made a motion to accept the minutes. Joyce Hayes seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.

Correspondence and communications.

The Board discussed a FOIA request and one alleged Internet abuse complaint (alleged bit-torrent of a copyrighted movie) forwarded to the library by the Internet service provider. Regarding the FOIA request, the Director praised Finance Manager Gwen Hall for her skill at running specific financial reports. Regarding alleged Internet abuse, the library has taken extraordinary technological, procedural and policy measures to prevent any illegal Internet use and is not complicit in any alleged abuse.

Financial report.

1. Approval of bills payable up to and including bills due July 16, 2014 to August 15, 2014. Roland Person made a motion to pay bills. Joyce Hayes seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.
3. Acceptance of the financial report for June 2014. Gwen Hall reported that there are naturally more program expenses in summer. We received a final bill from J & L Robinson for the Live & Learn Construction grant project. Joyce Hayes made a motion to accept the financial report. Roland Person seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.

Librarian's report.

1. Building and grounds maintenance and construction. Nothing to report.
2. Per Capita Grant Requirement: Review Chapter 7 (Collection Management and Resource Sharing), Serving Our Public 3.0 Standards for Illinois Public Libraries, Illinois Library Association 2014. The chapter was reviewed. Our library meets or exceeds all standards. The board also read the library's Selecting Materials policy. The review prompted an interesting conversation about the procedures our librarians follow for managing collections. Discussed filling purchase requests from patrons and whether any patron had ever submitted a formal request to ban a book. To the best of our knowledge a formal request to ban a book has never been submitted to the board. Patrons have (very rarely) asked to speak with the director about a book they object to, but a conversation about freedom of speech has always eased the patron's concerns.
3. Discuss Edge Initiative. Board Secretary Susan Tulis will watch the Edge Overview Webinar. The Library Director has watched the webinar and begun working on the Edge assessment.
4. Other. Encouraged attendance at this evening's programs: Teen Music program funded by local business EMAC in partnership with the library and the Carbondale Music Coalition; artists' reception for "Weaving and Hand Dye Hand Made Show" by Karl and Saiko Lanier. The library will also be moving to a new website design with assistance from Lazerware.

Committee reports.

Set dates for Personnel Committee to determine review questions and subsequently to review the Director (met in August, 2013). Tabled.

Unfinished business.

Patron conduct. A patron was banned from 8/14/13 until 8/14/17 for repeated and severe violations of the library patron code of conduct, including harassment of other patrons on 8/7/14 and 8/8/14. The patron was told in writing: "any harassment of library staff or board members via telephone or other means may cause the library to ban you for a longer duration, or permanently." It was noted that this patron has called three times since the ban. The patron called to debate the ban at length on 6/20/14 and was reminded that such phone calls may be considered harassment and increase the duration of the ban.

New business.

Patron conduct. The board discussed a patron who verbally assaulted and threatened library staff and threatened to "blow s*** up" on June 16, 2014. Don Prosser made a motion to ban this person until and unless there is further action from the board. The motion was seconded by Roland Person. Motion passed unanimously.

Other.

None.

Adjournment.

Adjourned at 5:26

Next Board Meetings for 2014 (all in Public Library meeting room, 4:30 p.m.): August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10

Respectfully submitted:

Susan Tulis, Secretary

Prepared by: Diana Brawley Sussman, Library Director