

Carbondale Public Library Board of Trustees
In-person meeting. Library meeting room.
405 W. Main Street
Carbondale, IL 62901

Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Call to order.

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.

Don Prosser, President
Susan Tulis, Vice President (1, plus 2 excused)
Roland Person, Secretary (1 excused)
Barbara Levine, Treasurer (1 excused)
Philip Brown (1)
Joyce Hayes (1 excused)
Chastity Mays (1 excused)
Harriet Simon (1)

Absent.

Julian Pei (3; plus 1 excused)

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

Visitors.

None.

Staff present.

Diana Brawley Sussman, Library Director; Gwen Hall Grosshenrich, Finance Manager.

President's report.

None.

Secretary's report.

1. Approval of March 9, 2022 Board Meeting minutes. Barbara Levine moved to approve the minutes with minor corrections. Roland Person seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.

Correspondence and communications.

None.

Financial report.

1. Approval of bills payable up to and including bills due April 16, 2022 to May 15, 2022. Roland Person moved to pay bills. Joyce Hayes seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.
2. Set Finance Committee meeting near end of April: April 28th at 4:00 p.m.
3. Authorize the finance committee to approve all bills to be paid by the last day of the fiscal year, not to exceed budgetary authority. Barbara Levine moved to approve this authorization. Chastity Mays seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.

4. Acceptance of the financial report for March, 2022. The Board discussed interest rates going down due to the bond market. Replacement tax has gone up. Philip Brown moved to accept the report. Joyce Hayes seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.

Librarian's report.

1. Building and grounds maintenance. Phone system may need to be replaced.
2. COVID-19 procedures. Things are going well. The plastic barrier around the circulation desk is still helpful.
3. Consideration and possible approval of eliminating fines on juvenile and teen materials. The board welcomed Children's Librarian Francine Wien-Frankowski to the meeting. She reported that she is happy to have the book budget she has. It is sufficient for replacing any lost materials. When she started in this position she needed to do a lot of weeding because it was difficult to find anything due to overcrowded shelves. She would rather see a book get checked out a couple of times and then lost than to have it never checked out. She shared feedback from teens who were excited to read, but didn't get to check anything out due to \$25 in fines. Chastity Mays shared that it is especially embarrassing for teens. The discussion centered around removing financial barriers to library access for youth. The New York Times reported that libraries are seeing long overdue materials coming back thanks to fine amnesty programs. Chastity Mays made a motion to eliminate fines on juvenile and teen materials. Roland Person seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.
4. Proposed Limited Access Card for children and teens registered through schools. Philip Brown moved to accept the policy change as proposed. The Board noted that we can amend the policy in the future as needed. Chastity Mays seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.
5. Proposed fine revisions to create uniformity and affordability on adult materials. Roland Person moved to approve the proposed changes. Joyce Hayes seconded. 7 yeas. 1 nay. MOTION passed.
6. Determine time-frame and scope for a proposed fine amnesty program. The Board decided to do the following: delete fines on children's cards and send notice to affected families; advertise amnesty throughout the month of May on all materials; remind patrons that they can earn credit on Wednesdays; promote the elimination of fines on children's and teen materials. Roland Person made a motion to approve these actions. Philip Brown seconded. MOTION passed unanimously.

Committee reports.

None.

New business.

None.

Other.

1. Patron behavior. None.

Unfinished business.

None.

Adjournment.

5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Roland Person, Secretary

Prepared by: Diana Brawley Sussman, Library Director

Board Meetings for 2022. All meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m.. Meetings are held in the Public Library meeting room unless taking place online due to a state of emergency (Agenda and link posted at <https://carbondalepubliclibrary.org/aboutus/board-of-trustees/upcoming-board-meeting-agenda/>): January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14, 2022.