

MASCOUTAH PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

The Board of Trustees of the Mascoutah Public Library held its regular meeting on September 21, 2021 at 6:15 p.m.

Trustees present and representing a quorum were Nancy Larson, Roger Grodeon, Scot Erickson, Jordan Rehfeldt, Kay Connolly and Merly Friedland; absent were Frank Bandre, Wayne Wilhelm and Suzy Friederich. Also present was Library Director Marian Albers.

President Nancy Larson presided and Merly Friedland recorded the minutes.

Additions to Agenda – None. Public Comments – None.

The minutes of the last Board meeting on August 17, 2021 were approved as written.
(Motion by Kay, second by Roger)

Financial Report: Marian presented the Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2021, and the statements of income and expenses for the month of August, 2021 and the 4-month year-to-date period from May 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021. Total year to date income was \$190,506, representing 43.23% of budget and expenses were \$135,458 or 30.75% of budget. We have received \$131,621 in tax monies from the County, or 35.37% of budget. Building and maintenance expense was very high due to extensive renovations.

Certificates of deposit will mature in January, 2022. Reinvestment of the proceeds will be decided at the next meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the above financial statements and ordered that the same be filed for audit. *(Motion by Roger, second by Jordan)*

New Director Search Committee Report: Marian reported that there are 6 applicants for the Director's position as of today. The Committee will meet to go over the applications.

Finance Committee Report: The Committee will meet to figure out a Proposed Levy for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, upon receipt of the Equalized Assessed Value information from the City.

Director's Report: Please refer to the Director's detailed written report for the September, 2021 Board Meeting covering library operations and activities since the last meeting and the Comparative Library Circulation Report for August, 2020 and August, 2021.

The Director brought up other matters for Board information, discussion, and appropriate action:

1. Thanksgiving Eve Hours - The Board unanimously approved early closing of the Library on Thanksgiving Eve, November 24, 2021 and set the library hours from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on said date. *(Motion by Roger, second by Scot)*
2. Problems with Glass Door – Marian brought up the underlying problem with the library's back door (northside) which would not close properly. Jerry (Marian's husband) was very

Director's Report – continued:

kind to come and fix the door, while our handyman, Bob Farley, was on vacation. It was noted that the door has been fixed several times over the years and Jerry suggested we look at replacing the door. This matter will be referred to the Building and Grounds Committee.

3. Grant- The Library has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. We are waiting to hear about the status of our application for the Spacing for the Future grant.

Old Business: 1. Per Capita Grant Requirements – Marian led a discussion covering SERVING OUR PUBLIC 4.0 STANDARDS FOR ILLINOIS PUBLIC LIBRARIES. The Board reviewed and discussed in detail the pertinent checklists, library's established goals, operating policy & procedures, level of performance and effectiveness in meeting the required standards.

2. COVID-19 Library Issues - Marian reported on current library operations. There is not a whole lot of issues to address at this time. We continue to adjust as new developments arise related to Covid-19. Wearing masks is a continuing requirement as well as maintaining limited number of people in our meeting room. Circulation is picking up, a good sign that things are gradually going back to normal.

3. Non-Resident and Cards for Kids Act – Implementation of the Act continues to be problematic and there appears to be a long way to go before the affected libraries are able to figure out ways to carry out the intent and purposes of the Act. Along with the Belleville Public Library, we need to determine boundaries and coverage for non-resident areas. The August 18th meeting between the System Directors and the State Library failed to provide clarity and direction on how to implement the Act.

Adjournment: There being no further business, President Nancy declared the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be on November 16, 2021 at 6:15 p.m.

Merly T. Friedland
Secretary

