



WESTMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY

428 N Cass Ave, Westmont, IL 60559
630 869 6150
westmontlibrary.org

Providing the community with the keys to lifelong learning.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 20, 2023

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Board President Jason Fichtel on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at the Westmont Public Library.

2) Roll Call

Present: Secretary Heather Booth, Vice President Elaine Carmichael, Trustee Melissa Donoghue, Trustee Beth Krotiak, Trustee Joanne O'Malley, and President Jason Fichtel

Absent: Treasurer Kerry O'Connor

Also present: Assistant Village Manager Spencer Parker and Village Director of Finance Jamie Cunningham

Staff present: Director Julia Coen, Assistant Director Colleen Seisser, and Administrative Assistant Michelle Mahlan

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the regular board meeting May 16, 2023
- b. Minutes of the finance committee meeting May 16, 2023
- c. Communications log May 2023
- d. Director's report June 2023

Motion: Booth moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Krotiak seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: All in favor

Motion passed

5) Open Forum:

- a. **Public:** Lauren Perrino said that there are so many books she wants that are not on the shelf at the Westmont Library. She explained that sometimes there is only one library that has a book she wants. She said that she always suggests books, and the librarians in Adult Services have gotten to know her. Sometimes she has to wait more than 3 months to get the book requested. One author, Michael Savage, has written many books, including 30 best sellers. The Jason Chaffetz book she wants has only one on order in all of SWAN. Michelle Obama's book is #8 on the NY Times Bestseller list and there are 2 hard copies, Kindle, and Audiobooks. Out of 100 SWAN libraries there are 50 large-print copies of Michelle Obama's book. She stated that she is feeling that this is not her Library. Other authors she is interested in are Mark Levin who has written 20 books and Michelle Malkin.

Gina Parrilli wants to move books from the children section to the adult section. A petition has been signed to move the books and all the petition signers live in Westmont. She is aware that a new law has been passed in Illinois that prohibits banning books. She stated that the petition does not request banning books but instead requests that the

books should be moved to a more appropriate section of the library. She suggested that the Brave books by Kirk Cameron should be added to the collection. She noted that we need more books like that and less books about sex.

Diane Bellows said that she had not read the books on the list but just the titles seemed inappropriate. She said she didn't know these books and didn't even want to look at them. She questioned how you reverse what children see in these books. She stated that innocence is a God-given right. She questioned why anyone would want their children to have access to this. She stated that you can't undo the loss of innocence and isn't it our right to protect them.

A patron stated that she had read a number of the books, including *All Boys Aren't Blue*. The book discussed that just because a boy doesn't play football doesn't mean that the child is not loved. She expressed that a number of these titles are necessary and needed. She noted that everyone's family will look different and this is what the Library celebrates. If we get into moving books, then those titles that those families need will not be available to them. Moving the books takes away the opportunity for parents to have a discussion with their children. The Library is a safe place. It opens an opportunity to have a conversation about the content.

Another patron stated that the request is to move the books from the kid's section to the adult section. She said that the books should be placed in the appropriate section.

- b. **Board:** Beth joined the Library staff at the Street Fest event. The art project was well received by the public. Coen noted that the artwork is on display in the Library and that 290 people stopped by the Library's table.
- c. **Director:** The next outreach event is at the Taste of Westmont on July 15 from 12-4.
- d. **Staff:** Seisser noted that the Little Miss Ann concert was well-attended by 126 people. The Summer Reading program is off to a good start. As of June 19 there are 330 active readers, 450 registered, 45 challenges completed, 1871 badges earned, 2,367 books read, and 52,240 minutes listened to. Seisser and Coen met with SCARCE to learn more about the Earth Flag program. A green audit will take place in August and SCARCE will present at the staff in-service in September. A Green Team has been formed at the Library with full and part-time staff from all departments. Updated program guidelines were released to all staff including the new program evaluation form.

6) Additions and Deletions

Motion: Booth moved to include Additions and Deletions with Bills and Salaries, Donoghue seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: All in favor

Motion passed

7) Treasurer's Report

Motion: Booth moved to file the Treasurer's Report for audit, O'Malley seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: All in favor

Motion passed

8) Bills and Salaries

Motion: Booth moved to approve Bills and Salaries Report, Krotiak seconded.

Discussion: Carmichael inquired if the Nicor bill for one month or two. Coen answered that Nicor bills monthly. Krotiak asked if the new computers were ordered. Coen and Seisser clarified that six (6) staff computers and six (6) public computers were ordered, received, and installed. Carmichael asked about the miscellaneous charge for Village of Westmont and Coen replied that the invoice was for the annual required backflow testing.

Vote:

Ayes: Booth, Carmichael, Donoghue, Krotiak, O'Malley, and Fichtel - 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1

Motion passed

9) Unfinished Business

10) New Business:

a. Board to consider a motion to approve the FY23 Illinois Public Library Annual Report

Motion: Booth moved to approve the 2023 IPLAR, Carmichael seconded the motion

Discussion: Coen explained that the Library needs to file this report within 60 days of the end of the fiscal year.

Statistics are compiled throughout the year. All usage numbers went up this last year which is no surprise. Krotiak asked about revenue for non-resident cards. Coen explained that there is a fee for household library cards for unincorporated areas based on the same rate taxpayers pay. Krotiak thought the number seemed low. Coen agreed and will look into these numbers. Booth added that she loves seeing this report. It is a huge effort that benefits libraries in general.

Vote:

Ayes: Booth, Carmichael, Donoghue, Krotiak, O'Malley, and Fichtel - 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1

Motion passed

b. Board to consider a motion to approve the purchase of (3) Aruba switches for IT services from the special reserve fund for \$5,200

Motion: Booth moved to approve the purchase of (3) Aruba switches for IT services from the special reserve fund for \$5,200, Donoghue seconded.

Discussion: Glen, Village IT Director, provided information about the needed purchase. He explained that a network switch is what all devices connect to and controls the traffic. The switches that we have now are older and have a zero day vulnerability which is a security issue. Krotiak asked about the life of the new units and Glen replied 7 to 10 years. Booth asked how the vulnerability is found. Glen replied that it is the industry standard to report the problem. The manufacturer of our current switches, Cisco, issued a statement that they would not push out fixes for the current switches. Donoghue asked about the chance that this could happen on the new equipment. Glen replied that with new equipment, the vendor issues patches when new threats occur.

Vote: Ayes: Booth, Carmichael, Donoghue, Krotiak, O'Malley, and Fichtel - 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1

Motion passed

11) Adjournment:

Motion: Carmichael moved to adjourn at 7:35 p.m, O'Malley seconded.

All in favor

Motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Booth

Westmont Public Library Board of Trustees, Secretary