

MANHATTAN-ELWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

February 22, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Manhattan-Elwood Public Library District took place virtually on Zoom and was called to order at 4:33 pm.

ROLL CALL: Present: (voting members): Sharon Gill, Robert Braam, Kim Ciuffini, Keri English, Jan Krekel, Patti Blatti,; Not Present: Terry Ralston
Library staff: Ashley Hopper, Director; Nicole Silberman, Admin. Assistant

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:

MINUTES: Minutes from January board meeting were approved as written.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Filed for audit

PAYMENT OF SPECIAL BILLS: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Trustees should have received an email from Will County Clerk regarding the Statement of Economic Interest forms to be filed online. Director Hopper shared that payments from the tax distribution payments we receive from the county may be delayed. The library recently had several ceiling leaks due to excessive snow and ice on the roof that caused damage to some books. We were recently invited by the Manhattan school district to participate in their virtual family literacy event, where we recorded a fun story time and a tour of the library to share with the families. The library will again be partnering with the Manhattan Park District for another drive-in movie night at the Round Barn farm this summer.

Essential Business:

Micro Pantry Addition: After doing further research on micro pantries and having discussions with the library's attorney and insurance agent, it was agreed that installing a micro pantry on library property is not feasible at this time due. Vice President Braam motioned and Trustee Krekel seconded the motion to reject this request made by community members, citing various concerns of risks and liability to the library. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Front Interior Door Replacement – Multiple bids were received to replace the interior set of doors at the front entrance as they are needing repairs more often due to their age and excessive wear. Vice President Braam motioned and Treasurer English seconded the motion to approve the replacement of these doors at a cost not to exceed \$4,500. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Executive Session: Trustee Krekel motioned and Treasurer English seconded the motion to enter Executive Session at 5:20 pm to discuss the performance evaluation of Director Hopper, with all in favor. The board moved out of Executive Session at 5:56 pm. Treasurer English motioned and Trustee Blatti seconded the motion to increase the Director's salary as discussed in closed session. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:03 pm

Respectively submitted,

Nicole Silberman, Administrative Assistant