

MANHATTAN-ELWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

May 24, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Manhattan-Elwood Public Library District was called to order at 4:51 pm.

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED TRUSTEES: Keri English, Patricia Blatt, Jan Krekel were sworn in after being reelected. Julie Mason was also sworn in after being newly elected. Robert Braam was not in attendance and will be sworn in at a later date.

OFFICER ELECTIONS: Trustee Blatti motioned and Trustee Krekl seconded the motion for the officer positions to be elected as follows: Sharon Gill - President, Keri English - Treasurer, Julie Mason - Secretary. The Vice President position is open and will be filled at next board meeting.

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

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Filed for audit

PAYMENT OF SPECIAL BILLS: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Hopper reported that the number of visitors and circulation stats are still down considerably. A "Summer Fun at the Library" newsletter is being mailed out to Manhattan and Elwood residents in early June that highlights the many fun events and activities planned our summer reading program. Director Hopper met with newly elected Mayor Adrieansen and looks forward to collaborating with the Village of Manhattan to create a community newsletter of other future events.

ESSENTIAL BUSINESS:

Serving Our Public: Director Hopper discussed Chapters 1 (Core Standards) and 2 (Governance and Administration). Secretary Mason will review Chapters 3 and 4 for the June meeting.

Committee Assignments: The Bylaws Committee will consist of Patricia Blatti, Keri English, and Jan Krekel; The Budget Committee will consist of Sharon Gill, Keri English, and Bob Braam, The Personnel Committee will consist of Sharon Gill, Patricia Blatti, and Julie Mason.

Ordinance 21-1: Treasurer English motioned and Trustee Blatti seconded the motion to adopt Ordinance 21-1 Authorizing the Transfer of Funds to the Debt Certificate Fund. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Ordinance 21-2: Treasurer English motioned and Trustee Blatti seconded the motion to adopt Ordinance 21-2 Authorizing the Transfer of Funds to the Special Reserve Fund. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

2021-2022 Working Budget: Treasurer English motioned and Trustee Blatti seconded the motion to approve the Working Budget as recommended by the Budget Committee. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote. Budget committee will meet before the June board meeting to discuss the Tentative Budget.

Non Resident Fee: Treasurer English motioned and Trustee Blatti seconded the motion to continue to participate in the State of Illinois Non-Resident fee program. Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Operations and Hours Update: Discussed the possibility of increasing library hours of operation by opening on Mondays. It was agreed that with the numbers still being so low, the library will remain closed on Mondays and it will be reevaluated next month. Also discussed the new CDC guidelines regarding wearing masks. It was agreed the library would update existing signs to say “masks recommended” rather than “masks required”. Unvaccinated staff and kids 11 and under are still required to wear masks.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:10 pm

Respectively submitted,

Nicole Silberman, Administrative Assistant