

**Rochester Hills Public Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting**

**January 11, 2021**

- I. The Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library held a regular (electronic) meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021. The President called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm via a virtual roll call. The presiding officer was Robert Bonam who announced he was attending remotely from Rochester Hills, in Oakland County, MI.

A quorum of the board was present and attending remotely including Gregg Christenson, Anne Kucher, Madge Lawson, Suba Subbarao, Chuck Stouffer, each of which confirmed they were attending remotely from a location in Rochester Hills, in Oakland County, MI.

Guests included Library Director Juliane Morian, City of Rochester Liaison Ayana Knox-Potts, and Oakland Township Library Board Liaison Michael Tyler, each of which confirmed they were attending remotely from a location in Oakland County, MI.

- II. There were no public comments.
- III. Minutes –On a motion by Ms. Kucher, which Ms. Lawson seconded, the board moved to discuss the regular meeting minutes of December 14, 2021.
  - A. The board made one correction to section VIII.A.3 and changed the wording from “confirmed that any additional revenue...” to “discussed that additional revenue...”
  - B. On a motion by Ms. Subbarao, which Mr. Stouffer seconded, the board approved the minutes of December 14, 2021, as corrected.
- IV. The Treasurer’s Report
  - A. The board reviewed and discussed the Treasurer’s report noting a surplus of anticipated revenue over expenses.
  - B. Ms. Morian offered to prepare a list of major projects to the Finance Committee for consideration and prioritization of funds.
- V. On a motion by Ms. Lawson, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board approved the monthly bills for December 2020 which totaled \$515,879.39.
- VI. Communications
  - A. The board reviewed, discussed and filed the communications.
- VII. Director’s Report and Statistical Report
  - A. Ms. Morian provided an update on COVID-19 library operations. Ms. Morian recommended continuing with drive-thru and lobby-only operations due to the community spread of the virus. She commented that the variables that influence a decision to change library operations are the rolling absences of staff at public service

points and stability of operations. Ms. Morian expressed hope to return to Phase 3, "Grab and Go" library operations by January 25<sup>th</sup> or February 1, 2021.

- B. On a motion by Ms. Subbarao, which Mr. Stouffer seconded, the board approved extending RHPL BENR-5a Emergency Paid Sick Leave policy and the BENR-8a Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act policy through March 31, 2021.
- C. On a motion by Ms. Subbarao, which Mr. Stouffer seconded, the board approved making RHPL BENR-5a Emergency Paid Sick Leave policy and the BENR-8a Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act policy retroactive from January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021.
- D. The board reviewed and discussed the director's report and statistical report.
- E. The board reviewed and filed the 2020 Year in Review. Ms. Morian explained that a public version that distills information down to a 2-page report and corresponding video presentation will be produced by mid-February.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Strategic Planning Committee

- 1. Ms. Lawson shared that the committee met on December 22, 2020 and reviewed the first draft of the strategic plan. She commented that she was pleased with the process as it provided an opportunity for the board to delineate their goals and for staff to provide a corresponding action plan. The committee will review an updated draft and make the decision to meet again or advance the plan to the full Board for consideration.

IX. Other Business

- A. Ms. Lawson asked if the library had received inquiries from patrons regarding resources or assistance in understanding the political unrest of January 6<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Morian commented that she is not aware of specific requests, but that librarians are preparing a page of resources for youth, teens, parents, and adults to help make sense of issues and topics related to the violence at the Capitol building.
- B. Mr. Christenson recognized the strong leadership of Ms. Lawson during the challenges of 2020 and thanked her for her service as board president. Other board members expressed their appreciation to Ms. Lawson as well.
- C. There were no additional comments from board members.

X. Questions from the Liaisons

- A. Mr. Tyler expressed appreciation for Ms. Lawson's leadership. Mr. Tyler also wondered if there was an opportunity for the library to provide a resource that helps community members navigate some of the issues when cutting traditional cable television service in favor of streaming apps. Ms. Morian said she would ask staff to pursue.

XI. The regular meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.