

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

August 9, 2021

- I. The public hearing for the 2022 RHPL Budget plan was opened at 8:00 pm by the Board of Trustees president, Robert Bonam. There were no comments and the public hearing was closed at 8:01 pm.
- II. The Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library held a regular meeting on Monday, August 9, 2021. The President called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm. The presiding officer was Robert Bonam.

A quorum of the board was present including Robert Bonam, Anne Kucher, Chuck Stouffer, and Suba Subbarao. Madge Lawson conference called into the meeting and announced she was attending remotely from Rochester Hills in Oakland County due to a medical reason. Gregg Christenson had previously noted that he would be absent for the August meeting.

Guests included Library Director Juliane Morian and Oakland Township Liaison Michael Tyler.

Members of the public in attendance were Melinda Deel, Julianne Reyes, and Jim Sesi.

- III. Public Comments
 - A. Mr. Sesi expressed disapproval with some titles on the Association for Library Services to Children Summer Reading list for Youth age birth – preschool that is available as a printed handout at the Youth Services desk.
 - B. Ms. Reyes commented that she is looking forward to the Used Book Sale this week.
 - C. Ms. Deel commented that she too is looking forward to the Used Book Sale this week.
- IV. Minutes –On a motion by Ms. Subbarao, which Ms. Lawson seconded, the board approved the regular meeting minutes of July 12, 2021.
- V. The Treasurer’s Report –The board reviewed and filed the treasurer’s report with no discussion.
- VI. On a motion by Mr. Stouffer, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board unanimously approved the monthly bills for July 2021 totaling \$417,374.48.
- VII. Communications
 - A. The board reviewed and filed the communications with minor discussion.
 1. Regarding the communication request from Ms. Andrea Aragona to provide more detail in the board meeting minutes the board discussed the merits of providing more information for greater transparency. Mr. Stouffer noted that this request has come up before. Mr. Bonam stated that what is included is

- compliant with the Open Meetings Act. Ms. Kucher stated that she felt that the minutes were sufficiently detailed. Ms. Morian offered a suggestion to post the full board packet online starting in September as a way to bridge information from the agenda to the minutes. The board agreed that posting the full board packet would be a beneficial improvement and provide greater transparency.
2. Mr. Tyler suggested that the library digitize all minutes and make them searchable. The board agreed this would be a useful endeavor and Ms. Morian will investigate the feasibility of accomplishing that goal.

VIII. Director's Report and Statistical Report

- A. The board reviewed and filed the director's report and statistical report with minimal discussion.
 1. Ms. Morian noted that since the time of the board packet preparation and the meeting the positivity rate of the virus had increased from 4.5% to 5.1% in Oakland County. Facemasks are preferred before entry in the building, but are not required. Ms. Morian stated that she has not ruled out requiring facemasks before entry at a future date, but is hopeful that if community transmission remains low it can continue to be a preference, not a requirement.
 2. There was some discussion regarding the mini-bookmobile grant and current costs of a bookmobile vehicle. Ms. Morian stressed that is unknown if RHPL will be awarded the grant (announcement should come in September) as libraries across the state requested approximately \$8M in grant projects and the Library of Michigan has approximately \$4M to distribute.

IX. Committee Reports

- A. Finance Committee
 1. On a motion by Mr. Stouffer, seconded by Ms. Subbarao, the board unanimously approved the budget plan for 2022 and appropriated \$5,065,075 to the general fund for the 2022 fiscal year with no discussion.
- B. Policy Review Committee
 1. Ms. Subbarao noted that the Policy Review committee would meet on August 31st at 7pm to review various policies.
- C. Director's Evaluation Committee – Mr. Bonam confirmed he would convene a meeting with committee members in the coming weeks to begin the process of the director's evaluation.

X. Other Business

- A. Ms. Morian provided an update on a necessary elevator repair. She noted that the library obtained quotes for repair work from two different vendors and recommended moving ahead with the lesser of the two quotes for \$10,500 from TK Elevator.
- B. Ms. Lawson asked and Ms. Morian confirmed that the Conference Room B is available for groups to use presently. Ms. Morian noted that Conference Room A has some minor repairs that should be completed before public bookings can occur in that room.

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- C. There were no other comments from board members

- XI. Questions from the Liaisons
 - A. Mr. Tyler thanked the board for allowing him to share his opinions at their board meeting. He also said he was pleased that the type of elevator RHPL maintains is not proprietary and allows more than one company to service it.

- XII. The regular meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Anne Kucher, Secretary