The Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library held a regular (electronic) meeting on Monday, May 10, 2021, due to a limited, local state of emergency declared by the City of Rochester. The President called the meeting to order at 8:02 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, Chuck Stouffer, each of whom 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, Oakland Township Library Board Liaison Michael Tyler, and members of the public: Julianne Reyes, Melinda Deel, and Jim Sesi.

Public comments

A. Ms. Deel introduced herself as a candidate running for a library board seat, noting that her husband, Ryan Deel, had been an elected member of the board for a number of years. She conveyed her admiration for the Library Board in working so hard to maintain operations during COVID-19. She also praised the library staff for offering innovative programming options despite pandemic restrictions.

B. Ms. Reyes introduced herself as a candidate running for a library board seat. She mentioned that she was happy to attend at her first library board meeting.

Minutes

A. On a motion by Ms. Lawson, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board approved the minutes of April 12, 2021 as recorded.

The Treasurer’s Report – The board reviewed, discussed and filed the treasurer’s report.

Monthly Bills – On a motion by Mr. Stouffer, which Mr. Christenson seconded, the board approved the monthly bills for April 2021, which totaled $310,470.82.

Communications – The board reviewed, discussed and filed the communications.

Director’s Report and Statistical Report –

A. The board reviewed the director’s report.

1. Ms. Lawson complimented Ms. Morian on her response to a question about library fines and use of a collection recovery agency.

2. Mr. Tyler asked about the newsletter call out of specific bookmobile stops. Ms. Morian clarified that the bookmobile was indeed visiting all the stops, but the
call out in the newsletter was to draw attention to stops that also featured a family story time. Ms. Morian mentioned that if the story times were popular and continue in the fall, the outreach team could consider expanding to stops in Oakland Township.

B. The board filed the director’s report and statistical report.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. There were no updates presented at the meeting.

IX. Other Business

A. Ms. Morian provided an overview of the west parking lot rebuild project. She informed the board that the west parking lot was particularly complex for three primary reasons:
   1. the asphalt has deteriorated and the subbase layer has been compromised;
   2. there was sinkhole patched in 2009 as a result of backfilled debris when the mill pond was eliminated;
   3. the parking lot is located next to the Paint Creek, which may require extra means to mitigate erosion and washout below the lot.

B. The board engaged in a discussion regarding the expertise required of an outside consultant or trusted paving company to answer questions about drainage plans, soil borings, and quality control.

C. Ms. Morian advised that Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. (HRC) has emerged as a top-quality candidate for engineering consultation given their reputation in the civil engineering field and they hold a copy of our site plan from the building’s construction in 1992.
   1. Mr. Stouffer expressed a desire to obtain a digital copy of the site plan regardless of awarding HRC the engineering contract or not. Ms. Morian will follow up with HRC regarding site plans.

D. Mr. Christenson offered to query his facilities team at Flagstar Bank for their perspective on how to approach a parking lot rebuild.

E. Ms. Morian informed the board she is researching one additional firm, AEW, to determine if their current work with the City of Rochester would be more cost-effective and facilitate greater information sharing between the engineering firm and the city.

F. On a motion by Ms. Lawson, that was seconded by Mr. Christenson, the board authorized the library director to receive and evaluate proposals and to engage a firm to provide comprehensive professional civil engineering services to oversee reconstruction of the library’s west parking lot; total fee not to exceed $41,500.

G. Board Comments:
   1. Ms. Kucher reminded the board that she would not be able to attend the June 14, 2021 meeting.
   2. Mr. Christenson asked for clarification on how many library candidates were running for open seats on the library board and he expressed that he will miss serving on the library board.
X. Questions from the Liaisons
   A. Ms. Knox-Potts commented that she is grateful to participate in meetings.
   B. Mr. Tyler appreciated the opportunity to share his opinions and thoughts.

XI. The regular meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

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Anne Kucher, Secretary