

**Library Board Minutes  
GREENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Wednesday, August 17, 2023**

President Dombrowski called the Regular meeting of the Greendale Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 5:35 PM.

Trustees Present:                         Amidzich, D’Amato, Dombrowski, Hughes, Jensen, Kobleska, Unger  
Excused:                                     none  
Also Present:                               Van Klooster- Library Director

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (1)**

Lara Miller of Lakeside Drive spoke on behalf of PAGE in favor of the Library’s Teen and Tween Pride Month program.

Linda Larson of Municipal Square spoke in support of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Trustee Unger moved, Trustee Kobleska seconded approval of the July 19, 2023 minutes.

Ayes: All                                     Noes: None                                 Abstentions: None                         Motion : Carried

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Check Register: July 2023

Trustee D’Amato moved, Trustee Dombrowski seconded approval of the July 2023 expenditures in the total amount of \$10,290.15. Van Klooster pointed out the explanatory note from the Deputy Clerk about double transactions.

Ayes: All                                     Noes: None                                 Abstentions: None                         Motion : Carried

**REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

- a) Revenues and Expenditures to Actual Comparison: July 2023
- b) Balance Sheet: July 2023
- c) Quarterly report of Friends/Foundation revenue deposited at library

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Discuss / Motion to adopt a revised *Library Board Bylaws*, Article V, specifically, to add the Pledge of Allegiance to the Order of Business.

Trustee Unger moved, Trustee Kobleska seconded a motion to adopt a revised *Library Board Bylaws*, Article V, specifically, to add the Pledge of Allegiance to the Order of Business.

Ayes: Amidzich, D’Amato,                 Noes: None                                 Abstentions: Dombrowski                 Motion : Carried  
Hughes, Jensen, Kobleska,  
Unger

- b) Discuss / Motion to re-adopt the *Programs, Displays and Exhibits* policy, specifically, to include provision for, “...secondary peer review of chosen programs and displays representing polarizing social topics,” under Policy section, page 1, and to strike the words, “...regularly scheduled...” from critical comment response under Procedure section, page 3.

Trustee Unger moved, Trustee Amidzich seconded a motion re-adopt the *Programs, Displays and Exhibits* policy, specifically, to include provision for, “...secondary peer review of chosen programs and displays representing polarizing social topics,” under Policy section, page 1, and to strike the words, “...regularly scheduled...” from critical comment response under Procedure section, page 3.

Dombrowski asked to confirm that the “secondary peer” is the Library Director. Van Klooster affirmed this.

Ayes: All                                     Noes: None                                 Abstentions: None                         Motion : Carried

- c) Discuss / Motion to re-adopt the *Materials Selection and Self Published Author* policy, specifically, to include provision for, "...secondary peer review of chosen materials representing polarizing social topics," under Criteria for Selection section, page 3.

Trustee Unger moved, Trustee D'Amato seconded a motion to re-adopt the *Materials Selection and Self Published Author* policy, specifically, to include provision for, "...secondary peer review of chosen materials representing polarizing social topics," under Criteria for Selection section, page 3.

Dombrowski asked to confirm that the "secondary peer" is the Library Director. Van Klooster affirmed this. Amidzich cautioned against secondary peer review being a deterrent to selecting material on a polarizing social topic in order to avoid controversy. Hughes echoed sentiment and said if a library is doing its job correctly then controversial material should find its way into the collection to ensure all perspectives are represented. Kobleska said he believes staff are already being balanced in their collection decisions.

Ayes: All    Noes: None    Abstentions: None    Motion : Carried

- d) Discuss annual joint Library Board / Village Board meeting invitation for September.

Van Klooster reported that Village Manager Hawes recommends skipping a joint meeting this year for several reasons related to Trustee limited schedule availability and absence of major topics for discussion. Hughes recommended that Hawes be invited to the September regular library board meeting to provide budget information and Village strategic direction for upcoming year as it relates to Library service.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Consider motions to elect Library Board Officers.

Trustee Kobleska moved, Trustee Hughes seconded a motion to elect D'Amato as President.

Ayes: All    Noes: None    Abstentions: None    Motion : Carried

Trustee Jensen moved, Trustee Hughes seconded a motion to reelect Kobleska as Vice President.

Ayes: All    Noes: None    Abstentions: None    Motion : Carried

Trustee Dombrowski moved, Trustee Unger seconded a motion to reelect Jensen as Treasurer.

Ayes: All    Noes: None    Abstentions: None    Motion : Carried

Unger volunteered to return to acting as Board Liaison to the Friends of the Library, giving priority to BOT meetings, starting September.

*Jensen left the meeting at 6:05PM*

- b) Summary of annual staff performance evaluations.

Van Klooster reviewed his memo.

- c) Annual review of DPI annual report comparative statistics.

Van Klooster provided a few highlights of the statistics including how GPL size and budget are comparable to communities while amount of business and therefore staff costs are higher than average, attributable to being within state's highest county population center. He said he intends to continue with a goal of talking to several 10% libraries to get more detailed insight into how Greendale compares to them. Van Klooster said Greendale is 'small but mighty' within the 14 MCFLS suburban libraries, meaning our municipal population is 5<sup>th</sup> smallest, both operating expenditures and staff expenditures are 4<sup>th</sup> smallest, but circulation is 4<sup>th</sup> highest per capita.

- d) Discuss program attendance rules, including permission slips.

Van Klooster referred to notes sent to members under separate cover including legal opinion of Village attorney regarding issues to consider when exploring options for restricting attendance at library programs. Discussion ensued, primarily exploring ideas for practical methods for managing program attendance by young people.

- e) Discuss programming philosophy and practice.

Members did not explore this topic in depth, instead suggesting Van Klooster pursue a formal process that would include this topic in a larger strategic planning effort to replace the now-completed 5 year plan.

- f) Discuss programming strategic direction.

Members did not explore this topic in depth, instead suggesting Van Klooster pursue a formal process that would include this topic in a larger strategic planning effort to replace the now-completed 5 year plan.

#### **INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a) Library Director and Staff Reports: Van Klooster reported on recent staff hiring.
- b) President's Report: Dombrowski noted her appreciation for the opportunity to serve as President.
- c) Friends/Foundation Report: Van Klooster said the Book Sale earned \$1200, Friends have another Saturday family program planned for October.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS (2)**

Mary Grogan of Sutton Lane spoke in favor of permission slips for library programs.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.