

Palos Heights Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of the meeting of August 17,2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Geri Burek. The following Trustees were present: Trustee Foertsch, Keough, Key, Jankowski, Snow, Zubik and Burek were present. Trustee Rhodes was absent. The President announced that a quorum was present.

Library Director, Jesse Blazek, was present as was Business Manager Terry Fleckenstein. Staff member Carla Dinocenzo, Asst. Supervisor of YTS, was present.

Two members of the public were present: Paul Dombrowski and Marty Idziak, of the Palos Heights Toastmasters group. They made public comments in the form of a request to waive room rental fees for their organization's twice monthly meeting in the large meeting room. They handed out written materials for the Board to consider.

The minutes of the June 15th meeting were approved, with a correction, on Trustee Snow's motion, Trustee Zubik's second, and a voice vote.

Trustee Keough, moved to approve the General Fund bills for the month of June, for the total of \$175,571.13. His motion was seconded by Trustee Jankowski. On a roll call vote the motion carried.

Again, Trustee Keough moved to approve the Treasurer's report for the month ending June 30, 2023. Trustee Snow provided the second, and a roll call vote carried the motion.

Approval of the July General Fund bills in the amount of \$143, 879.70 was asked by Treasurer Keough in his next motion, which Trustee Key seconded. This motion carried on a roll call vote.

The Board approved the Treasurer's report for the month ending July 31, 2023 on Treasurer Keough's motion and Trustee Jankowski's second and a roll call vote.

President Burek reported that a new member of the Board of Trustees has been recommended: John Peltz. His approval is in process with the Mayor's office. President Burek announced that this year's Illinois Library Association conference will be held October 24th-26th in Springfield and encouraged Trustee attendance. She also noted that Director Blazek had been mentioned in The Regional.

In addition to the narrative included in the Trustee's packets, the Director reported on the Library 'in service day' held the previous Friday, describing its program. Director Blazek also reported on recent consultation with Larry Birdman, coincidentally the bird expert, regarding failures in the protective netting over the library entrance. No action need be taken.

The President called for committee reports and the following were given:

Budget and Finance Committee has met and will meet again, reported Trustee Keough.

Trustee Foertsch deferred the fence issue considered by Building and Grounds to New Business.

President Burek reported that she is planning to meet with the City Council Budget and Finance Committee.

Trustee Jankowski, Liaison to the Friends of the Library, reported that the Friends Book sale was upcoming on Friday and Saturday and the “bag day sale” is going to be specially set for Sunday to accommodate teachers.

President Burek reported on the recent meeting of the Fundraising Committee and the plans for the fundraising event on October 14th: “Library Alive”. The next meeting of the Committee is August 28th.

New Business

President Burek and the Director explained the rationale for a Resolution permitting the Library to borrow \$250,000 from the City. Trustee Zubik moved we approve such a resolution and Trustee Key seconded it. On a roll call vote, this motion carried.

Trustee Foertsch, Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee, moved to spend \$5960.00 on replacement fencing around the exterior air-conditioning unit. With a second by Trustee Zubik, this motion carried on a roll call vote.

Trustee Zubik, Chairman of the Policy Committee, moved to adopt revisions to the Compensation Philosophy Statement to include a periodic benchmarking survey to advise the Board of regional staff compensation for reference. This motion was seconded by Trustee Keough and was carried on a voice vote.

A motion was introduced to authorize an additional year for the terms of both the Board President and the Recording Secretary, for the year 2023-2024 only, to permit goals contemplated by the President, before pandemic closures and restrictions, to be completed. The motion was made by Trustee Key and was seconded by Trustee Snow. It carried on a voice vote.

Nominating Committee member Trustee Snow then announced the proposed slate of officers for the year 2023-2024, to be elected at September’s meeting. The nominated slate is: for President, Geri Burek; for Vice President, Rose Zubik; for Recording Secretary, Susan Snow; and for Treasurer, Pat Keough.

On motion of Trustee Snow, the President adjourned the meeting. The time of the adjournment was approximately 8:15PM.

The next meeting will take place on September 21st at 7:00PM.