

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
MARCH 16, 2016

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE, ROLL CALL: The meeting of March 16, 2016, was called to order at 6:31 p.m. in the Library's Small Meeting Room at 15025 S. Illinois Street. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was conducted. Regular members present: Gilmore, Miller, Knight, Puetz, Andel and Schmidt. Regular members absent: Kinley. Staff present: Milavec, Pappas, Maxwell, Jackson, Quilan and DeFazio; Guests present: Vicky Polito, Kathleen Skinner, Judy Bigsby, Bill Wilson, Brian Murphy; John Piemonte; Don Nagle and Eric Penney of Nagle Hartray (left at 8:20 p.m.); Graham Harwood of CCS International (left at 8:20 p.m.); John Chraska of Every Library (left at 8:20 p.m.); Scott Viau of the Patch and Bob Okon of the Herald News (left at 8:25 p.m.)

PUBLIC COMMENT: President Gilmore made a statement acknowledging both referendum ballot questions did not pass. Since there was no candidate to lose, the only thing lost was the opportunity at this time. The board and staff will continue to serve. Trustees will review the results and gather feedback to decide next steps to meet the obligation to provide material and services to our patrons. Gilmore encourages participation by all in this process.

Chraska felt we had a very solid campaign and was very disappointed what we encountered. Anonymous participation was out of bounds and he is concerned of the attack on a public body. Plan A is solid and he would like to see it again and will be ready to help pro bono in any future attempts. Several others expressed a thank you for the efforts by all.

Trustees commented on attendance at community events and meetings. Puetz reported on his attendance at the Village Planning Commission meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA: President Gilmore accepted by acclamation the minutes of the February 17, 2016, regular board meeting.

Miller moved approval of Bills Paid and Bills Payable for February in the amount of \$294,744.85 as follows: Payroll \$141,226.28, General Library Bills \$126,214.57, IMRF \$23,583.82, VALIC (Deferred Compensation) \$3,139.22, Petty Cash \$15.00, Flexible Spending Plan \$565.96 and Special Reserve Fund \$.00. Andel seconded the motion. All voted yes via roll call vote; motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: A February 24, 2016, finance committee meeting report was presented. Miller reported that pursuant to discussion at the last board meeting, and review by the finance committee, a new Tax Escrow Account has been setup with First Community Bank of Plainfield and is ready to accept funds. The Illinois Funds account will be closed.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Library Director's report was reviewed. Milavec mentioned Quinlan will be retiring the end of this month and we will be considering this and other positions as we move forward. Quinlan was given a round of applause.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Unfinished Business

Building and Expansion Planning - Next Steps: Gilmore indicated we have a series of questions to ask ourselves. Do we continue to move forward with another referendum or plan or start on Plan B? Thoughts and questions conveyed were:

- The community is concerned about a tax increase but they don't understand construction costs of today and feel the increase is too much.
- Was there not enough input from the community?
- We need to get the people who have issues to talk to us.

- We have spent considerable efforts securing property which will be wasted if we don't move forward.
- Major concern is increased taxes and the assumption some items are not necessary.
- What does the community feel the size of this building should be?
- There is a risk with Plan B in that during renovations we run across unplanned costs.
- Any branch would cost more than one location for operational costs.
- It was noted this District has never passed an operating rate increase in its history.
- Precincts that passed the bond question for the building were all in outlying areas.

Chraska feels we need to ask three key questions: 1) Why did you hear the referendum failed? 2) Why do you think it failed? 3) What will make a difference? He feels it is impossible to get through the community noise to hear the message and recommends we revisit our stakeholders asking these questions so we can map our future direction. We also have open house sessions in April to gather info.

It is felt we have amazing momentum at the moment and we should take advantage of it. We should find out why it failed and how we can build on it. Perhaps looking at reducing the size of the building might help move us over that 7%. Gilmore cautioned that we need to look toward the future and create a building that we will be able to use for 25 years. The next ballot measure would have to be passed by the board by August 22nd to be on the November ballot.

What Gilmore is hearing from Trustees is we proceed with a dual track. While Andel feels we should wait longer and there is no rush, we should stay on track and move forward to not stop the progress. The board must be active in gathering info as time is short. It was noted that it is important to ask the stakeholder questions of those who live in the community, not just work here. It seems the majority of the board would like to:

- move forward on contemplating a November referendum
- divide stakeholder list among the Trustees to do polling to ask three questions
- gather feedback from National Library Week open houses
- discuss and explore Plan B options - Milavec to discuss with department heads
- review results and contemplate further direction at the next board meeting

B. New Business

Miller moved to accept the revised Working Budget as presented. Puetz seconded the motion. All voted yes via roll call vote; motion carried.

Puetz moved to approve policy updates to Appendix 3C Loan Rules and Fines Policy as presented. Schmidt seconded the motion. All voted yes via roll call vote; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved to adjourn; Puetz seconded the motion. All voted yes; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Maxwell
Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Knight
Board Secretary