

Kankakee Public Library
November 21, 2017
Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Kankakee Public Library Board of Trustees met as scheduled at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Matt Olszewski, Bruce Conway, Sheila Donahue-Kramer, Mike Gall and Dr. Beth Patrick-Trippel.

Absent: Alia Lockett-Faulkner and Ursula Wells.

Also present were: Stephen Bertrand, Library Director and Allison Beasley, Assistant Director.

Review of Minutes: The October 2017 minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. De Oliveira to approve the minutes and seconded by Dr. Patrick-Trippel. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comments: There was no public comment.

Communications: Ms. Donahue-Kramer, Mr. Olszewski and Dr. Patrick-Trippel all remarked liking the surplus items purchased. Mr. Olszewski suggested there may be a formula error with Reference User Statistics questions asked in Youth Services as the percentage increase was incorrect.

Bills and Invoices and Financial Report: Mr. Olszewski questioned why the Oberlin account was increasing. Mr. Bertrand said the square credit card payments went to that account and were due for transferring funds out of Oberlin account and into the General fund.

Mr. Olszewski questioned what invoices fall into the 406 budget line.

Ms. Donahue-Kramer moved to accept the budget report. Mr. Gall seconded and the report and the Bills and Invoices were accepted unanimously.

Director's Report: Mr. De Oliveira asked about the changes in the Black History scholarship program. Ms. Beasley explained the main changes this year are that more money is being presented to few scholarship recipients. Ms. Beasley also explained there was a slight lowering in GPA requirement but an increase in the essay portion of the scholarship and an in-person interview will be conducted by potential recipients from the Black History scholarship committee. Much discussion ensued surrounding the scholarship. Ms. Donahue-Kramer asked if any tax payer funds were used for the scholarships and Mr. Bertrand and Ms. Beasley said there were not – scholarship money comes from business donations. Mr. Bertrand also pointed out that Mayor Wells-Armstrong raises the funds for the scholarships.

Mr. Bertrand informed the board that Ms. Santoyo-Marin has resigned from the board due to work commitments that are requiring her to be in Chicago most evenings.

Mr. Conway asked if the scheduled meeting about the Kankakee Events Partnership took place between Mayor Wells-Armstrong and Mr. Bertrand and Ms. Beasley. Mr. Bertrand said that it did not. There were two meetings scheduled – one for Black History and one for the Kankakee Events Partnership. The Partnership meeting was cancelled and it was suggested that both topics be combined into the remaining Black History meeting. Black History took up most of the scheduled meeting time, but the Partnership was discussed briefly at the end of the meeting with the mayor. Mr. Bertrand said Mayor Wells-Armstrong asked if Mr. Bertrand and Ms. Beasley thought there should be a separate board for the Kankakee Events Partnership, and Mr. Bertrand and Ms. Beasley said they did. Mr. Bertrand expressed concern that the responsibility of the Partnership events falls mainly on Mr. Bertrand

and Ms. Beasley. Much discussion ensued surrounding the future of the Partnership. Ms. Beasley suggested in the meantime the library board act as the board that reviews and approves expenditures.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Mr. Bertrand presented the board with the proposed 2018 holiday closings. Dr. Patrick-Trippel moved to approve the closings and Ms. Donahue-Kramer seconded. The closings passed.

Executive Session:

An executive session was needed to discuss specific personnel. A motion to go into executive session was made by Mr. De Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Gall. The motion was approved unanimously. The board went into executive session at 6:50pm.

The board came out of executive session at 7:13pm.

A motion was made to adjourn by Ms. Donahue-Kramer and seconded by Mr. Conway. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Allison Beasley.