Minutes of the Board of Trustees
North Little Rock Public Library
Monday, March 20, 2023
5:30 PM

The Board met in Laman Library Room 126 with Zoom access provided. Ms. McLean called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. Those present were Ms. Crystal Gates, Executive Director; Ms. Valerie McLean, President; Mr. Charley Baxter; Ms. Esther Crawford; Ms. Joyce Brewer, and Ms. Kim Drake. Ms. Katie Phippin and Mr. Sonny Rhodes were absent. Motion Ms. Brewer, second Ms. Crawford, to excuse both absences. Motion carried unanimously. Also present: Mr. Richard Theilig, Ms. Stacy Purdy, and Ms. Shannan Hicks. Ms. Robin Campbell, Ms. Susie Kirk, Mr. Cameron Sharp, Mr. Adam Branscum, Ms. Susan Shirley, Ms. Lauren Bradley, Ms. Janet Rodgers, Ms. Lacy Wolfe, Ms. Jennie Promack, Mr. Connor Brashear, Ms. Kathy Sarna, Ms. Julie Delashaw, Ms. Beverly Partin, Ms. Marilyn Willis, Ms. Tammie Evans, Ms. LaTia Harris, Ms. Shelbie Reed, and Mr. Michael Shirley joined remotely. There were no public comments.

Mr. Baxter, second Ms. Brewer to approve the Minutes of January 17, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates reviewed the Financial Report, including Final 2022 and 2023 Year-to-Date February Financials. Motion Ms. Drake, second Ms. Crawford to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously.

During a review of the Statistical Report, Ms. Drake suggested suspending Hoopla in order to move the funds because the limit is consistently reached so early in the day. Ms. Gates explained that Hoopla service was reduced but not dropped entirely because some materials are not available elsewhere. Motion Ms. Drake, second Ms. Crawford to approve the Statistical Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gates reviewed the Director’s Report, including her PTO and recent meeting schedule. She highlighted Passport Service under the leadership of Ms. Darlene Cunningham and positive community feedback for Ms. Anita Dollar. During discussion of Arkansas SB81, Ms. Gates explained procedures should the bill become law. Ms. Gates requested Board of Trustees’ approval of V.5 Collection Development Policy, V.6 Reconsideration of Materials Policy, and V.6 Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials. She will duplicate the Name and Statement at the bottom of V.6 Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials at the top of the first page. Motion Ms. Drake, second Ms. Brewer to approve the aforementioned policies.

Motion Drake, second Ms. Brewer to declare an emergency, suspend bid requirements, and accept sole source boiler repair at Laman Library for Advantage Service Company in the amount of $46,825.49. Ms. Gates reported completion of roof repair and weatherproofing on part of Laman Library’s roof. An older portion of the roof will be replaced through state contract or bidding, whichever is less expensive. At Argenta Library, decking and roof replacement is also needed.

Ms. Drake, second Ms. Brewer to grant Ms. Gates the authority to amend Budget GL Line Items contingent upon Total Expenses not changing. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Drake asked the Summer Reading Challenge Theme, All Together Now. Mr. Baxter observed the Special Election making clear North Little Rock’s love for the library. Ms. McLean, Ms. Crawford, and Ms. Gates recognized the team effort involved. The next regular meeting is set for Argenta Library on Monday, May 15, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.

With no further business to discuss, motion Mr. Baxter, second Ms. Brewer to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Crystal Gates, Secretary