

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
June 13, 2022; 4:30 p.m.

Chairperson Melissa Bonorden called the regular meeting of the Austin Public Library Board to order at 4:30 p.m., on Monday, June 13, 2022, at the Austin Public Library.

PRESENT: Melissa Bonorden, Jwokamer Debock, Sue Grove, Ted Hinchcliffe, Nitaya Jandragholica, Stephanie Postma

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Baldus (County Commissioner), Joyce Poshusta (City Council Member), Julie Clinefelter, Sara Steinhoff

ABSENT: Kristi Beckman, Shannon Lysne, Alex Mayfield

AGENDA:

Nitaya Jandragholica moved to approve the agenda; Stephanie Postma seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Sue Grove, seconded by Jwokamer Debock, to approve the May 9, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. Carried.

EXPENSES AND FINANCE REPORTS:

A motion was made by Ted Hinchcliffe to approve expenditures and accept the finance reports for May of 2022. Nitaya Jandragholica seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

SELCO REPORT:

Sue Grove reported SELCO is reconsidering the size of its board of directors, pursuant to a study provided by a consulting group on the optimal board size for the organization. She noted the proposed recommendations are to reduce the board to either 16 persons or 21 persons, and will provide updates as they become available.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Joyce Poshusta noted several individuals have filed to run for City Council in the November election. She also stated the recent Austin Pride event went very well.

Jeff Baldus also made note of the upcoming election candidates, and reported on the first county employee recognition ceremony and commented on the positive trends in the county's employment practices.

OPERATIONAL REPORT:

Julie Clinefelter provided a written operational report to the board and presented additional information regarding several of the subjects covered.

Director Clinefelter advised the newly-hired youth services librarian, Salie Olson, will begin on June 20, and the hiring for the vacant library assistant position will be completed shortly.

Julie discussed the upcoming City Council mini-retreat, focusing on and taking place in the library on June 29. She invited board members to participate in the presentation and discussion, if able. Joyce Poshusta noted the council is most interested in hearing about the current and future staffing needs of the department.

Clinefelter provided additional information regarding the proposal for the library board to participate in the League of Minnesota Cities collaboration services process, noting that participation could bring about positive outcomes in terms of improved communication and transparency between city boards, the council and administration. Julie advised she will be involved in the initial interviews, along with Board Chairperson Melissa Bonorden and liaison Joyce Poshusta, in regards to the library board.

Director Clinefelter also noted the start of the 2023 budget process, and asked the board's finance committee to meet in the coming weeks to discuss a proposed library budget.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

BOARD COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Sue Grove moved to adjourn at 5:25 p.m.; Ted Hinchcliffe seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Steinhoff, Recording Secretary

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Monday, July 11, 2022, 4:30 p.m.