

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

December 13, 2021; 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, December 13, 2021, at the Austin Public Library. The meeting was conducted by videoconference via Zoom Meeting, as permitted by Minn. Stat. 13D.021 during the condition of a current health pandemic (COVID-19).

PRESENT: Melissa Bonorden, Jwokamer Debock, Sue Grove, Ted Hinchcliffe, Nitaya Jandragholica, Jodi Krueger, Shannon Lysne, Stephanie Postma

ALSO PRESENT: Joyce Poshusta (City Council), Jeff Baldus (County Commissioner), Kristi Beckman (incoming board member), Julie Clinefelter, Sara Steinhoff

ABSENT (WITH PRIOR NOTICE): Alex Mayfield

AGENDA:

Jodi Krueger moved to approve the agenda as presented; Ted Hinchcliffe seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Ted Hinchcliffe, seconded by Shannon Lysne, to approve the November 8, 2021, meeting minutes as presented. Carried.

EXPENSES AND FINANCE REPORTS:

Following board review of expenses, a motion was made by Ted Hinchcliffe to approve expenditures and accept the finance reports for November 2021. Jodi Krueger seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

SELCO REPORT:

Sue Grove reported she attended the SELCO Board's advocacy group meeting and the meeting of the Legacy funding group, noting the January 27, 2022, deadline for community collaboration grant applications. The grant funds available for the SELCO region total \$35,000.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Joyce Poshusta noted the City is currently seeking new members for a variety of posts on City boards. Jeff Baldus provided an update on the county's finalization of the budget for 2022.

OPERATIONAL REPORT:

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

Julie opened with a word of appreciation and recognition for board member and secretary Jodi Krueger, who is completing her third term with the library board.

Julie advised the staff had one member out due to a positive COVID result, but that person has recovered and returned to work, and no other staff members had needed to quarantine.

Clinefelter also provided updates on the Reading for Life Program, the preparations for the upcoming library construction project, the KAUS radio advertising program. She noted she is working with a community group to request funding and proceed with planning for programs related to *Our Austin, America*, a photographic book project, and Adult Services Librarian Courtney Schmitt is working with the Mower County Master Gardeners group on establishing a seed library and related programs. Also in programming updates, Julie advised the pilot volunteer-led programs – Sit & Knit, Sewing Basics, and Step-by-Step Painting – have all started and she will report back on how they progress.

Julie advised of some upcoming costs related to facilities. The installation of the dryer purchased for purposes of sanitizing soft toys/materials will be around \$800, and the replacement of the emergency lights system may cost upwards of \$20,000 if it cannot be repaired.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Stephanie Postma noted the Personnel Committee will meet to discuss the annual review of the library director. Director Clinefelter advised she will provide the committee with her year-end report.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

BOARD COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ted Hinchcliffe moved to adjourn at 5:10 p.m.; Jodi Krueger seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Steinhoff, Recording Secretary

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Monday, Jan. 10, 2022, 4:30 p.m.