

MINUTES OF THE DAVIESS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTHLY MEETING

July 20, 2022

Members Present: Michelle Drake
Rodney Ellis
Susan Gesser (virtual)
Beena Vora (virtual)

Members Absent: Harry Pedigo

Others Present: Erin Waller, Director
Debbie Young, Business Manager
Josh Kelly, Reporter – Owensboro Times
Charlie Castlen, Fiscal Court Liaison
Ruth Ann Harris
Evan Meyer
Jeanne Clark
Hope Neel
Adam Neel
Will Mounts
Paula Wedding
Avery Wedding
Heather Blackburn

The meeting was called to order by President Michelle Drake at 5:04 p.m.

Michelle Drake called to move Public Comment to the top of the Agenda since we had several guests attending the meeting who wished to address the Board. Ms. Drake told the attendees they could address the Board but to keep comments brief so everyone would have time to speak. The individuals attending were mostly from the neighborhood surrounding the Library and they discussed their concerns over the Parking Lot Expansion Project. Their main concerns were that they were not notified in advance of the project, removing the trees from the vacant Library lot, proximity of the parking lot addition to the corner house (Neel residence), and possible water drainage issues. After everyone had addressed the Board, Ms. Drake thanked everyone for attending and voicing their concerns. The guests left the meeting.

Michelle Drake called for the approval of the minutes of the June meeting. After review and hearing no comments or corrections, Rodney Ellis made a motion to approve the June minutes as presented. Susan Gesser seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Rodney Ellis presented the Treasurer's Report. He went over the June 2022 financial report including the receipts and expenditures for the month. Hearing no comments or corrections, Susan Gesser made a motion to approve the financial report and expenditures as presented. Beena Vora seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Waller presented the Director's Report and discussed the following:

- Summer Reading is going strong, with a lot of patrons participating and the programs have had great numbers. Summer Reading will end on July 31.
- The Library is working on completing the Neblett Center Library renovation using the Atmos Energy grant money. New furniture and books have been purchased for the Library. There will be a Ribbon Cutting for the Library on September 6 and 10 am.

Michelle Drake called for Old Business – Parking Lot Expansion Project. Erin Waller reported that the vacant lot had been cleared. Unfortunately, there was no advance notice that the work would be started so Ms. Waller was unable to give advance notice to the neighbors. Letters have now been mailed to the neighbors outlining the rest of the project. The widening of the Ford Avenue entrance should start on Monday to get that completed before school starts.

Ms. Waller and the Board Members discussed various options that could be implemented in response to the neighborhood residents' concerns. This could include upgrading landscaping around the parking lot, taller fencing by the Neel residence and limiting some parking by the house. Ms. Waller will contact the engineers and contractor on these options and will also contact Mr. Neel.

Michelle Drake called for Old Business – Board Member Nominations – Expiring Terms. Erin Waller reported the Beena Vora's second term is expiring in September so there would need to be two nominations for her seat since she cannot serve more than two terms. Rodney Ellis's first term is expiring in September. Mr. Ellis would like to serve another term so there would need to be one additional nomination for his seat. The Board discussed some possible people who might be interested in being on the Board and Ms. Waller will contact them so nominations can be made at the August meeting.

There was no New Business.

Michelle Drake asked Mr. Castlen if he had anything for Public Comment and he said he did not.

Having no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m. The next meeting of the Daviess County Public Library Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Board Room.

