

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

July 19, 2023

Members Present: Michelle Drake
Rodney Ellis
Susan Gesser
Harry Pedigo (Virtual)
Chris Gendek

Others Present: Erin Waller, Director
Debbie Young, Business Manager
Janie Marksberry, Fiscal Court Liaison

The meeting was called to order by President Michelle Drake at 5:00 p.m.

Since there were guests and media representatives at the meeting, Michelle Drake announced that Public Comment would be moved to the first Agenda item. There were approximately (20) people attending the meeting and anyone wishing to speak to the Board had indicated such on a Sign In Sheet. Ms. Drake indicated that each person would have two minutes to address the Board and that everyone should be respectful of the time limit as well as allowing each person to speak. There were seven people that addressed the Board regarding the termination of a part-time employee. The Guest Sign In Sheet with the names of the people who attended the meeting and spoke to the Board is attached to these minutes. Ms. Drake thanked everyone who attended the meeting and addressed the Board. She stated that anyone could stay for the meeting or were free to leave the meeting.

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

Rodney Ellis presented the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Ellis noted that the Board Members had received the June financial reports in advance of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments on the reports. Hearing no comments or corrections, Susan Gesser made a motion to approve the financial report and expenditures as presented. Chris Gendek seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

- Ms. Waller reported that the fiscal year ended with Library Statistics being up. Circulation was up over 20% from last year, patron visits were up 27% and program participants were up 76% from last year.

- Ms. Waller indicated that she had the Public written comments from the June board meeting that she had emailed to the Board and asked if anyone had any questions. Ms. Marksberry asked if she could review the comments and Ms. Waller indicated she would email them to her.

There was no Old Business.

Michelle Drake called for New Business – Board Member Nominations-Michelle Drake-Second Term Expires 9/13/23 (2 new nominations). Erin Waller reported that Michelle Drake'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. Ms. Waller reported that we had several candidates that were interested in serving on the Library Board. After the Board reviewed and discussed the candidates, Chris Gendek made a motion to nominate Kevin Dorth and Elizabeth Ewing for the open board seat. Rodney Ellis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Debbie Young will submit the nominations to KDLA for their review and they will forward the names to Judge Executive Castlen for him to choose a candidate for the open board seat.

Michelle Drake called for New Business – September 11 Staff Day/Front Door Installation – Closed to the Public. Erin Waller indicated that the new Front Door is set to be installed on September 11. This will be approximately an eight hour job and in order to avoid the issue to trying to get patrons in other staff doors in the building, asked that the Library could be closed to the public. Staff would be at the Library for a Staff Day. We are working on potential Active Shooter Training for staff. The Board asked that there also be some review and training in Policies for the staff. Ms. Waller asked that since the dates are still being finalized, that the Board allow one day in September to be closed to the public (instead of a specific date). Rodney Ellis made a motion for the Library to be closed to the public on a Monday or Tuesday in September for the Front Door Installation/Staff Day. Susan Gesser seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Michelle Drake called for Public Comment. Ms. Drake noted that Ms. Marksberry had not commented in the earlier Public Comment and asked if she would like to address the Board. Ms. Marksberry indicated that she did not have anything for Public Comment.

Michelle Drake called for Closed Session – Discussion that may lead to the appointment, dismissal or discipling of an individual employee. Susan Gesser made a motion to go into Closed Session. Chris Gendek seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Michelle Drake called for Open Session. Rodney Ellis made a motion to return to Open Session. Susan Gesser seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Ms. Drake indicated that no action was taken in Closed Session and that the Board will continue their due diligence to investigate the employee issue.

Having no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m. The next meeting of the Daviess County Public Library Board of Trustees will be on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Board Room.



