

Ella Johnson Memorial Public Library District, 109 S. State Street, Hampshire, IL 60140

Minutes of February 22, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, 7:00 PM, Via Zoom

President Barbara Brust called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:02 p.m. Present were trustees Barbara Brust, Linda Wallace, Pat Dumoulin, Linda Drendel, Judy Pokorny, Matthew Mariani, and Karen Williams. Also present was Library Director Nancy Ashbrook.

Changes/Corrections to the Agenda: None

Questions/Comments – Public or Media: None

Approval of Minutes:

Motion Dumoulin, second Mariani to approve minutes of the January 25, 2021, Regular Meeting. Brust – Y, Pokorny – Y, Williams – Y, Mariani – Y, Drendel – Y, Wallace – Y, Dumoulin – Y. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report:

A. Motion Wallace, second Williams to approve the February 2021 bills of \$16,898.46. Brust – Y, Drendel – Y, Wallace – Y, Mariani – Y, Williams – Y, Pokorny – Y, Dumoulin – Y. Motion passed.

B. Reviewed and discussed financial reports from January 31, 2021.

Director’s Report:

A. A new VOIP Phone System was installed in January; a new copier has been leased for staff workroom.

B. The new PrairieCat mobile app has been used widely and has been well received.

C. Library Director continues to provide information to IDES and monitor the fraudulent unemployment claims; library has received a third claim.

D. Library is working with a local marketing professional (at no cost) prior to launch of needs assessment survey for the Transforming Communities grant.

E. Board president made the following observations:

1. Youth Services continues to provide excellent programs.
2. The Library/Park District Program Book has been discontinued due to the pandemic.
3. The free on-line app for viewing magazines is moving from RB Digital to Libby.

F. Director Ashbrook recognized Circulation, Adult, and Youth Services – and the entire staff—for going beyond their literal job descriptions in order to provide services to our patrons during this time of no open programming.

G. Director Ashbrook directed our attention to the PrairieCat report and its efforts to save the nuclear plants in Bryon and Dresden. Our board members may join in this effort by visiting the PrairieCat website for more information.

H. Eleven Hot Spots are up for renewal. Ella’s Friends will pay the annual fee of \$1,320 for these Hot Spots.

President’s Report: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Linda Drendel was appointed to join Pat Dumoulin on the Personnel Committee.

Executive Session:

Motion Dumoulin, second Pokorny to enter into Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. in order to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) – purchase or lease of real property for the public body. Dumoulin – Y, Pokorny – Y, Brust – Y, Wallace – Y, Williams – Y, Mariani – Y, Drendel – Y. Motion passed. Board returned to Regular Meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Action in Respect to Executive Session: None

Discussion:

A. Two board members advised other board members to visit new or newly renovated libraries in Geneva and St. Charles.

B. Treasurer Dumoulin and President Brust will come into the library Tuesday, February 23, 2021, in order to sign checks.

Adjournment: President Brust adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Drendel, Board Secretary