

MAHOMET PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING APRIL 10, 2023, 6:15PM AT THE LIBRARY

Members Present: Jeanne Campion, Kevin Kelsey, Chris Moore, Rebekah Rhode, Kristen Streeter

Not Present: Susie Baker, Carrie Heimann **Also present:** John Howard, Kate Smith

Chris Moore opened the meeting by reading the library's mission statement: "Together we create a welcoming community that empowers everyone to learn, connect, create, and grow."

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2023

Rebekah Rhode moved to approve the regular meeting minutes for March 13, 2023. Kevin Kelsey seconded; the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Jeanne Campion moved to approve the financial report for March 2023. Kevin Kelsey seconded. Roll call vote; all trustees voted in favor of the motion.

Jeanne Campion moved to approve the check register for March 2023. Kevin Kelsey seconded. Roll call vote; all trustees voted in favor of the motion.

Jeanne Campion commented about a recent bill for plumbing repair, noting that five toilets had to be repaired and wondered if the library should look into alternatives for the current toilets. John Howard said that plumber told him that hard water was causing valves to degrade and leak. John added that the plumber had suggested an expensive solution and that he would be looking for a second opinion.

Director's Report

John Howard submitted the director's report before the meeting.

Jeanne Campion asked why the library was offering PTO on July 1 to staff working less than 15 hours per week when the new Illinois law doesn't take effect until January 1, 2024. John said that he felt that if it's something that is going to be done, it's worth doing soon. Jeanne asked how much it would cost the library and Kate Smith estimated \$2500.

Rebekah Rhode asked why computer use was down significantly. John said it had been declining for a while and he wasn't sure why.

Kevin Kelsey asked if there was a change in the weekend schedule with the addition of the new clerks. John said that each new clerk would work one out of three weekends, just like everyone else. He added that he had had very high-quality candidates and would have hired more of them if he had open slots.

Audience Comments – No comments

Committee Reports – Finance Committee

Chris Moore asked Jeanne Campion to report on behalf of the finance committee.

Jeanne reported that the finance committee met [April 4] to discuss the FY 23-24 budget and review the projected fund balances. She told the board that the committee will be recommending the budget at the May meeting. She also reported that the committee discussed the library's financial strategy and asked Kevin Kelsey to elaborate.

Kevin reported that John had asked the committee to consider maintaining three months of cash instead of six, with rotating maturities every three months. Kevin said that this would earn the library more interest, but there would be a small risk and he would want to be sure this cash balance makes sense, considering interest and cash flow.

Scott Schaumann (incoming board member in the audience) asked what vehicles the library invests in. John explained that there are state rules that limit the library's investments to safe items such as CDs, treasuries, and agency funds.

New Business

A. Introduction of Heather Murphy, Marketing Coordinator

John Howard presented Heather Murphy, the newly hired marketing coordinator, to the board, adding that he interviewed the three top candidates, and she was his firm top choice.

Heather introduced herself, summarized her background, and said that she was looking forward to supporting and growing marketing at the library to reach everyone in the community.

B. Sneak Preview of New Website Design

John Howard showed the board the final design mock-up for the new website and said that Surface 51 was now beginning the development phase.

Strategic Plan – Quarterly Update

John Howard submitted his quarterly progress report on the strategic plan before the meeting. There was no discussion.

Board Advocacy

John Howard told the board he would be sending out a sign-up sheet soon for volunteers for the I Spy Summer @ the Library event.

Kevin Kelsey asked if the Friends of the Library needed help with the upcoming book sale and John Howard and Kristen Streeter both said that the Friends need help with set up and tear down.

Trustee Comments

Jeanne Campion welcomed the new board members in attendance and Heather Murphy.

Chris Moore said he echoed Jeanne's remarks and also thanked John for the peek at the new website.

Adjournment

Rebekah Rhode moved to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Kelsey seconded; the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Kate Smith, Business Manager