Davenport Public Library Board of Trustee President Steve Imming called the monthly meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 in the Director’s Office at the Main Library.


Library staff present: Amy Groskopf, Library Director; Michael Priest, Assistant Director; Jennifer Williams, Operations Manager; Tracy Moore, Development Director; Kasey Shipley, recorder.

Guests: Marion Meginnis, Third Ward Alderman; Will Van Leer, Owner of Bubble Tea; Laura Genis, FRIENDS Board President.

Lance motioned to approve the consent agenda. Shrikhande seconded and all approved.

Public With Comment: None.

Presentations: Introductions were made around the table to Meginnis. She came to provide information on the differences between local and national registry for historic places and districts. Meginnis has a Masters in Historic Preservation and lives in the Hamburg Historic District. She provided a handout with a table of requirements and eligibility of tax credits for both types. A few items of importance include that the local rules are created locally and not the same in every city. Once designated a local landmark, any exterior changes require the approval of the Historic Preservation Committee. The National Register of Historic Places is under the National Parks Service. To take advantage of any tax credits, the building would need to be signed over to a non-profit as government-owned buildings do not qualify. Something like this was done with the Adler Theater as it underwent renovations and can include work like mechanicals and roofing. She does not see a downside to this. If landmarked as both local and national, funds raised could go further if the tax credits are utilized. Many properties have been lost to demolition and she’d like to see more buildings or dwellings landmarked and the city leading the way through their properties is a good example to set. At present, there is not a place on the city’s website for the historic districts and landmarks. The city of Dubuque has a section on their website for historic preservation that she complimented. Groskopf noted the board would need to approve the application for either status. Will Van Leer arrived at 12:25 to present his desire to open a Bubble Tea in the Eastern Avenue café space. He has owned Bubble Tea at NorthPark Mall for four years and invested a lot of money in equipment and hired all new employees, and also owns one at SouthPark Mall. There would only be costs to him in getting the space up and running; none to the library. He passed around a rendering of the Bubble Tea logo over the café exterior entrance. They do not serve sandwiches or wraps as they once did; coffee, tea and smoothies make up the menu of drinks. Likely hours would be 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., possibly reducing if they don’t get good business during some of those times. Groskopf shared a sample lease with him and will pass along his business plan and menu to the board. It is possible a special board meeting will be called if a lease comes together in the next few weeks. Shrikhande asked if they would be willing to cross-promote with the library on their Facebook or website. Van Leer expressed that he would. Any lease agreement will come to the board for approval, possibly calling a special board meeting.

FRIENDS Report: Genis reported the FRIENDS received $240,000 in a grant award from SCRA to be paid over three years for the capital campaign. They have filled one more position on the capital campaign steering committee and have a meeting Thursday with a potential co-chair. The goal is to have 8-12 on the committee. Please let her know if you have a recommendation for a candidate.

Finance Committee: No report.

Personnel Committee: No report.

Director’s Report: The banner on the front pillar has been taken down as a safety precaution until a new design is created. Summer Reading programs are going well with the bird and snake programs each seeing around 300 attendees. Fairmount is seeing about 50 children per day for the summer meal site. Around 200 Davenport residents presented their library card for free admission to the Figge during that promotional week.
**New Business:** Roba motioned to approve submitting an application for local landmark status for the Main Library building. N. Motto seconded and all approved. Shrikhande motioned to approve submitting an application for National Register status for the Main Library building with a second by Lance. All approved. N. Motto motioned to approve Iowa Illinois Office Solutions the contract for Main Library furnishings for $34,386, as recommended by Legat’s interior designer, and being the lowest bidder meeting quality and design standards in specifications. A. Motto seconded the motion and all approved. A. Motto motioned to amend the Library Behavior Policy to remove item 18 regarding weapons at the Main Library, albeit under protest. N. Motto seconded. There was much discussion concerning the allowance of weapons in the libraries. All approved the amendment in removing item 18. Imming led discussion on officer elections that will take place in July. The consensus was to add the process creation to a future agenda and re-elect officers as they are in July. Another point made was to elect for two-year terms as one year in a position is too short for officers. By-laws may need amended when a process is determined.

With no further business, A. Motto motioned to adjourn at 1:25 p.m. Roba seconded and all approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Kasey Shipley