Board President Steve Imming called the monthly meeting of the Davenport Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 12:06 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2020. The meeting was held in the Small Meeting Room in the Lower Level of the Main Library.

Present: Matt Casillas (via Go To Meeting) Craig Cooper, Tom Engelmann, Steve Imming, Judie Lance, Naghme Motto (via Go To Meeting), Sylvia Roba and Malavika Shrikhande. Absent: Amanda Motto.

Guests: Marion Meginnis, 3rd Ward Alderman/council liaison to the library.

Library Staff in attendance: Amy Groskopf, Library Director; Lexie Reiling, Assistant Director; Jennifer Williams, Operations Manager; Brittany Peacock, Community Outreach Supervisor; Tracy Moore, Development Director; Kasey Shipley, Recorder.

Engelmann motioned to approve the consent agenda with a second by Shrikhande. All approved the consent agenda.

Public with Comment: None.

FRIENDS Report: Groskopf reported the FRIENDS are working on the April 30 fundraising event. The committee is going to downtown food and beverage businesses to solicit donations of appetizers and samples of a signature cocktail. The event will be held from 5:30-7:30. Another $25,000 pledge has been secured for the capital campaign from the Rock Island Arsenal Federal Credit Union. That committee continues their pursuit of pledges for the project.

Personnel Committee: No report from Casillas.

Advocacy Committee: Shrikhande will send out information to the board on the February 1 backpack-packing food event at River Bend Food Bank. January 22 is International Library “Shelfie” Day and she asked the board to stick around after today’s meeting and be in the photo taken in front of library stacks in Special Collections. There is a fundraising event for $50 per ticket in March at the Rhythm City Casino for the food bank if any one is interested in attending. Tables of 10 people can be purchased.

Director’s Report: Groskopf reported from Saturday’s City Council work session that the additional branch hours are likely to be approved. City staff recommended it and she’s received only positive comments from Council. The Library’s outreach mobile is anticipated to arrive in late February or early March. Imming noted that the hours for the branch libraries will be the same at night but still have closed mornings as they currently do.

Council Liaison Report: Meginnis reported the council would be reviewing the capital improvement project budget this coming Saturday at the council’s budget meeting. The council’s top five priorities for the upcoming fiscal year are Flood & Resiliency, Juvenile Justice, Infrastructure, Crime Analytics and Urban Revitalization. She expanded on each topic and said they will be speaking about them at the Saturday, February 1 budget meeting. Shrikhande and Groskopf joined Meginnis at Bald Eagle Days to talk to attendees that stopped by the booth about the Complete Census Count Committee’s work and encouraging a prompt reply to the census when submissions open online. Extra work in census areas
like where Meginnis lives will be required. The 2010 Census only saw a 53% response from the area where she lives. The library will provide either a dedicated computer for Census submissions or a link on all public computers.

New Business: Engelmann motioned to approve closing the Main Library at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 30 to hold a FRIENDS of the Davenport Public Library fundraiser from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Roba seconded and all approved with no discussion. The second item of new business was to approve the award of the contract to replace two air handlers at the Main Library to the low bidder, Hometown Plumbing & Heating for $540,000. Lance motioned to approve the award and Engelmann seconded. Groskopf noted the $50,000 the Board approved to cover the anticipated gap in funding will not be needed and will go back to the levy. All approved the award to Hometown and Groskopf said it will now go to City Council for approval due to the amount.

Old Business: Cooper motioned to approve the revised Non-Discrimination and Harassment Policy. Shrikhande seconded and all approved with no further discussion. Engelmann motioned to approve the revised By-Laws with a second by Shrikhande. Discussion included Meginnis noting that the wording may lack clarity regarding the option of Public with Comment. Cooper motioned to table the By-Laws with a second by Engelmann. All approved the tabling of this item until edits can be completed and presented to the board.

Board Training: Peacock presented training on the Community Outreach Department for approximately 15 minutes. The department was created and staff hired over the last year. It is made up of four employees: Brittany Peacock, department supervisor, full-time Library Assistant Allison Zordell, part-time Library Assistant Michelle Frieden and part-time AmeriCorps member Satoria Williams. Peacock reviewed how far they’ve come in the last year in adding outreach programs and bringing the library to the community. Story Times at preschools, Senior Center Outreach with items to check out and book clubs, attending community events both large and small have taken place this past year. S. Williams created a word search of library services to share. The members of the team love what they do and see the impact they have on the community. They look forward to taking the Outreach Wheeled Library (OWL) on the road this year. For upcoming events, they will be at the St. Ambrose STEAM event for young women on February 18 for students in second through eighth grades. Shrikhande complimented Peacock on the images posted by the department.

Imming shared some library humor, noting a sign in the library that said “The place where SHHH! happens.”

With no further business, Roba motioned to adjourn at 12:54 p.m. Engelmann seconded and all approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Kasey Shipley, recorder