

DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2021 MEETING

President Steve Imming called the monthly meeting of the Davenport Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 12:03 p.m. The meeting was held in the Large Meeting Room at the Main Library.

Roll call of Trustees: Amanda Motto, Joe Heinrichs, Malavika Shrikhande, Judie Lance, Tom Engelmann, Maggie Motto and Steve Imming were all present in-person or via Go To Meeting. Craig Cooper and Sylvia Roba were absent.

Shrikhande motioned to approve the consent agenda with a second by Engelmann. A. Motto, Heinrichs, Shrikhande, Lance, Engelmann, M. Motto and Imming all approved.

Public with Comment: No one from the public was present.

FRIENDS Report: Groskopf reported that the FRIENDS voted to approve supporting the program to be held at the Library as part of Alternating Currents at the last meeting. They will also support the Fairmount Block Party in August by paying for backpacks pre-packed with school supplies.

Finance Committee: Engelmann noted that 91% of the fiscal year has passed and as of June 4, spending is below that level. The FY22 Budget Recap was also included in the packet.

Personnel Committee: No report from A. Motto.

Advocacy Committee: Shrikhande reported on attending the Library's DEI (diversity, equity & inclusion) team meeting on May 19. There were many excellent ideas regarding the approach of outreach and the group is identifying individual contacts with local non-profits. She may be reaching out to the Board to see if anyone has a personal contact with a non-profit. Tomorrow is the meeting for June. She noted she receives the newsletter for QC Chamber that contained older photos of the Main Library's interior and contacted them to let them know it has been updated. Groskopf noted that Brittany Peacock noticed the same and had contacted them, too. Shrikhande also has spoken with Alex Washington, the new Target store manager, and St. Ambrose alumni. She shared information with him about the FRIENDS since they are a non-profit. There is a voting program in place so she wanted to share that information with the FRIENDS. The National Honor Society (NHS) at Central has student volunteer hours to complete. Shrikhande reached out to Bianca Sierra at Fairmount to see if they can help at the Block Party. Those interested will complete the volunteer form on the website to make it official.

Imming noted he forgot to introduce the rest of the attendees at the meeting after the Trustee roll call. Amy Groskopf, Library Director; Lexie Reiling, Assistant Director; Jennifer Williams, HR Operations Manager; Tracy Moore, Development Director; Kasey Shipley, recorder; and Marion Meginnis, City Council liaison were all present.

Director's Report: Groskopf pointed out that in the FY22 Budget Recap, you may notice that there is no beginning balance for Building Maintenance. The City will not be billing us back hourly for Facilities Maintenance staff as they have in the past. With the renovation project at Main, we are still waiting on some doors. Two are for restrooms and the other goes to the staff workroom off of the study room hall. Due to security concerns for the sorter and other equipment, we cannot open the study rooms for use until that door is in place. Legat will be asked to create a signage package to go out for bid. It was an

item not done in the original scope since renovation costs were expected to be higher. Once that cost comes in, other projects like landscaping will be pursued. The first in-person program was held last week at Fairmount in the children's garden and it went well. Bids were due this morning for the masonry work at Fairmount that was funded by the City using available CIP money late in the fiscal year for projects that may not rise to the level of cost for a typical capital improvement program project. The strategic plan report from Wastyn & Associates is due soon. It will contain an aggregate of focus group data from those sessions. Groskopf noted that cost savings seen in the budget recap for FY21 were largely due to vacancies not filled during the pandemic, and supplies were not needed at the normal level due to fewer patrons in the buildings. The survey for the Strategic Plan will come out after the report with the goal being to validate what was heard at the focus group sessions. Imming mentioned in Groskopf's written report, the Request for Qualifications deadline for the Director search firm is today. He will share information with the Board on it, and a special meeting may be held soon to approve the hiring of a firm to keep things moving along.

Council Liaison: Meginnis reported that last week the City Council reviewed 58 proposals for spending of the \$41 million the City is receiving from the CARES Act. There were 500 responses from a public survey which was an unusually large response. Many of those suggestions did not qualify since they were road repairs, which is not a part of this funding. The ranking of the projects will be shared at the Council Update this afternoon which is a public meeting. Projects that they reviewed included capital projects, flood management, Library-related items, programmatic items. There were not programs related to specific outside agencies, rather a general scope that could include working with a variety of outside agencies on certain programs. They hope to have the list narrowed by August so those can be approved by Council. The funds need to be spent by December 31, 2024, or be designated to be spent within two years after that deadline. That extension is to allow time for engineering and planning on projects like sewers, which is an allowed expense. The guidance on the rules of expending the funds is being monitored; some items may have to follow HUD guidelines, for instance, if housing-related. Meginnis' second item relates to the gun violence that occurred at the downtown parking ramp a couple of weeks ago. This has been an ongoing issue in the City over the past few years but police are seeing a change of late and believe it is gang-related with very little cooperation from victims and those that know what is going on or who is involved. The tops of the ramps have become an attractive nuisance and the City has closed the top levels of the Harrison Street and Redstone ramps. The Mayor has reached out to the Governor and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court asking for assistance, as well as other law enforcement agencies, Federal and State. Guns stolen out of cars seem to be a source of many used in crimes. Please encourage gun-owners in your life to be responsible with them. The City is also looking at more cameras downtown, as well as possibly re-installing gates at the ramps to deter misuse. The police do have all of the license plates of the cars that entered the ramp the evening of the shooting from the system in place in the ramps.

New Business: The first item was to approve the Administrative Policies 3 through 6. Lance motioned to approve with a second by A. Motto. Imming noted there were not many changes from the discussion at last month's meeting. Heinrichs, Shrikhande, Lance, Engelmann, M. Motto, A. Motto and Imming all voted to approve. The second item of business was to review the ADA checklists completed for each library's approach and entrance. Groskopf noted this is part of the State Library's accreditation process. A few years ago, the restrooms at each building were reviewed. Deficiencies in the approaches and entrances noted include the height of the signs noting handicap accessible spaces is too low at all seven spaces at Eastern and at one at Main. The Main Library lot needs restriped to allow for a larger van accessible space. The entry doors at Main are a half inch too narrow. She did note that we haven't had any complaints with those in wheelchairs not fitting in the space. Fairmount's review found no

deficiencies in the checklist, but she noted that there was an issue when an adult at the children's garden programming attempted to access the garden through the Library. She will be looking into a fix for that issue. The data requested on the forms is very interesting and allows us to find ways to improve accessibility. Meginnis will make sure the City knows of the checklist. The third item of new business was a motion to approve closing the Main Library at 4 p.m. on Thursday, August 19, 2021 for a special event. Heinrichs made the motion with a second by Shrikhande. Groskopf said this event is in conjunction with Alternating Currents and will be similar to the LPs and Libations event held a couple of years ago. Downtown vendors will provide samples of food and beverages. There will be local history displays recognizing Iowa's 175th anniversary as a state. Renovated spaces will be shown off to attendees with music provided by QC Beats artists. Regular library services such as computer access and library card issuance will not be part of the event. A roll call vote of Shrikhande, Lance, Engelmann, M. Motto, A. Motto, Heinrichs and Imming had all voting yes to approve the closure.

With no further business, Engelmann motioned to approve at 12:38 p.m. A. Motto seconded and all approved to end the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kasey Shipley, recorder