

Minutes
Monona Public Library Board
Library Board Room
October 19, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

I. Roll Call

Library Board Trustees Present: Mary Anderson, President; Todd Stebbins, Vice President; Roselyn Ebel, Secretary; Jennifer Kuhr, Alderperson, Jennifer Fonner, School Board Representative

Library Board Trustees Absent: Erinn Monroe-Nye, Community Representative

Library Staff Present: Director Claringbole

II. Call to Order

President Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

III. Approval of Minutes

Alderperson Kuhr motioned to approve Minutes for September 2021. Trustee Fonner seconded. Motion passed.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Review of and Approval of Bill Payments, Financial Report and Activity Report
Vice President Stebbins motioned to approve Bill Payments, Financial Report, and Activity Report for September 2021. Trustee Fonner seconded. Motion passed.

V. Library Directors Report

A. Operating Budget

The draft of the Mayor's budget was released and the increases that were proposed related to wage line items are moving forward at this point; however, the maintenance line item was decreased. The proposed operating budget now moves forward to City Council.

B. Capital Budget

The capital budget process is moved back two weeks as it was tabled by City Council until November.

C. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training

Director Claringbole is helping to facilitate training within the City departments for the Justified Anger course led by the Nehemiah organization. In addition, Library Department leaders are participating in Equity in Action training. Many of the ideas discussed during the session have already been thought through by the library and they are planning to use tools they have available to them to further diversify the collection, for example.

D. Service Volume

Volume is plateauing and in general, circulation and visits are down in general. Director Claringbole has reached out to several colleagues locally, around the state, and outside of the state; universally, they responded that their library use is also down in those locations. Burnout/COVID exhaustion in the general public seems to be a common culprit everywhere.

E. AV Equipment

Director Claringbole is submitting a grant proposal for AV equipment in the Forum and/or Municipal room that would improve programming opportunities in those rooms, including the ability to better stream online.

VI. Board Discussion Topics

A. Library Services and Programs

The board offered ideas and suggestions.

B. Scheduled Closings

Director Claringbole proposed the following days closing for 2022: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day After Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day. The Board also discussed closing for MLK Jr. Day, Juneteenth, or Indigenous Peoples' Day, and would like more information from the community before making such a decision.

C. Book, Television & Movie Recommendations

The Board shared their book, television, and movie recommendations.

VII. Board Votes

A. Vote on Library Closures for 2022

Vice President Stebbins motioned table the decision about holiday closures to next meeting. Alderperson Kuhr seconded. Motioned passed.

VIII. Announcements

A. Next Board Meeting is November 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

IX. Adjournment

Vice President Stebbins motioned to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Fonner seconded. President Anderson adjourned the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Roselyn Ebel
Approved November 16, 2021