

MAUD PRESTON PALENSKE MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 26, 2022
DRAFT

Call to order: Board President Ren Baldwin (City of St. Joseph) called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.

Other board members present: Vice President Melissa Clapper (St. Joseph Township); Secretary William Ast (City of St. Joseph); Patrice Rose (St. Joseph Township); Mimi Elwell (St. Joseph Township); Barbara Thompson (City of St. Joseph); and Betty Mundy (St. Joseph Township).

Absent: Kathy Buursma (City of St. Joseph).

Also present: Director Stephanie Masin; Assistant Director Paula Stakley; Sue Morgan, administrative assistant. No members of the public were present, either in person or remotely.

Friends of the Library: Virginia Antonson of the Friends was not present. However, Baldwin said she had told him there was nothing new to report for July.

Meeting minutes of closed sessions held during the April 26 and June 28 regular meetings: Elwell, supported by Thompson, moved to accept the minutes, as corrected, of the closed sessions held during the April 26 and June 28 meetings. The board voted unanimously to approve both sets of minutes. Masin gave copies of the minutes to board members for their signatures, and Masin afterwards collected the minutes for archival purposes.

Minutes of the June 28 regular meeting: Elwell, supported by Rose, moved to accept the June 28 minutes. The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's report: Rose moved to accept the financial report, and Thompson supported the motion. The report included bills totaling \$19,507.55.

The board voted unanimously to approve the report.

By-laws: Thompson, supported by Mundy, moved to approve the "revised and amended" by-laws.

Baldwin said he "appreciated Stephanie Masin and others for going over the by-laws. There was a lot of effort put into this — a six-month effort ... I think the term is, 'Put it to bed.'"

Baldwin asked for comments on the new employee contract. Masin said the employees "have already noticed (pay raises) in their pay checks, and they're happy about it."

Card holders report: Masin said there had been a “breakdown of borrowers” during the pandemic, but those numbers had been “fairly consistent over the years.”

Thompson said it may be possible for libraries “to ask for air time on media or newspapers.” Those would fall under the category of public service announcements, she added.

Director’s report: Masin noted that “COVID is starting again,” and that the library will “follow CDC guideline on how to respond.”

Masin added the library has three “outstanding new employees — Barbara Simpson, Adult Services; Elizabeth Pudell, Children’s Services Storytime lead; and Chastity Edlefson, Children’s Services Tweens. All are part time, Masin added.

The new employees are: Barbara Simpson, Adult Services; Elizabeth Pudell, Children’s Services and Storytime lead; Chastity Edlefson, Children’s Services and Tweens.

Adjournment: Ast, supported by Thompson, moved to adjourn the meeting. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion, and Baldwin declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary William Ast