

**Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 20, 2021**  
**5pm – Downtown Library & Via Teleconference**

**Call to Order:** President Eudell Watts III called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

**Attendance:** Karen Phillips (teleconference), Pat Mahar, Jo Noon, Deborah Freiburg, Holly Sparkman, Elizabeth Russell (teleconference), Jacki Nelson, Jenni Swanson; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Lisa Lockheart, Publicity/Outreach Liaison; Judith Gilbert, Alderwoman-elect

**Public Comment:** The public had the opportunity to comment in-person, via teleconference or phone, or via email. No public comment was received.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 16, 2021, meeting. Without any additions or corrections, President Watts III advised the minutes be approved as written.

**Board Education:** None

**Correspondence:** Correspondence was included in the board packet.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance –

- Jenni Swanson presented the bills and noting nothing out of the ordinary, made a motion to approve the March bills in the amount of \$64,110.97. Debbie Freiburg seconded. With no discussion, President Watts took a recorded vote. 8 Ayes – Swanson, Phillips, Nelson, Noon, Russell, Mahar, Freiburg, and Sparkman; no nays. Motion carries on a recorded voted.

Buildings and Grounds – Pat Mahar/Karen Phillips

- No report from the Committee.

Personnel & Policy – Debbie Freiburg

- No report from the Committee.

Planning & Community Relations – Holly Sparkman

1. Holly Sparkman reported that the committee met on April 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the strategic plan. Committee members participated in a brainstorming session to map out goals, objectives, and tasks that relate to the four areas of concentration – Transformative, Relevant, Equitable, and Engaged (TREE). Director Campbell and Publicity/Outreach Liaison Lockheart will work on a draft to present in the coming months.

Art Committee - Pat Mahar/Jo Noon

2. No report from this committee.

**Foundation:**

Director Campbell reported that another large donation was received just today, putting the campaign over 78%. Once it reaches 85% funding, the Community Phase will begin. The YMCA is currently in the RFQ process for hiring a construction manager and general contractor.

The next quarterly Foundation meeting is May 13, 2021 at 4pm.

**Administrator Reports:**

- Director's Reports & Statistics – Director Campbell provided a detailed report and statistics in the Board packet. She pointed out the highlights, which included personnel issues, the Occupancy Agreement with the YMCA, and the JCI project. Trustee Phillips noted that statistics were beginning to look up.
- Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District – Director Campbell reported that the next meeting will be held April 22, 2021, 4pm, at the Southwest Branch Library. Their agenda is light, but they need to discuss who may be available to attend the TIF hearings in Milan.

**Unfinished Business:**

- \*Long Range Planning – Director Campbell reported that with the fundraising still in full swing, there were not any updates to the long-range plan just yet. It will remain on unfinished business for the foreseeable future.
- \*Library Locations' Hours – Director Campbell presented the gate count data for both library locations. With the summer reading challenge already planned, and events already planned in alternative locations this summer, Director Campbell asked the Board to approve extending the Library's current hours through August 31, 2021. They can be revisited at the Board meeting, along with additional gate count data, to determine the best hours for fall. Debbie Freiburg made the motion to approve extending the current library hours through August 31, 2021. Jacki Nelson seconded. Discussion about the hours revolved around current staffing levels, the pandemic, and the YMCA/Library project. President Watts took a recorded vote. 8 Ayes – Swanson, Phillips, Nelson, Noon, Russell, Mahar, Freiburg, and Sparkman; no nays. Motion carries on a recorded vote.

**New Business - None**

**Information Sharing:**

- Bulk Sales Documentation
- Fine Tree Poster
- Updated Board Policy List

**\*Closed Session – Not Necessary**

**Announcements:**

**Director Campbell offered A HUGE THANK YOU to Holly Sparkman** for serving on the Library Board.

**Adjournment** – Without further business, President Watts adjourned the meeting at 5:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Campbell  
Library Director