

PALOS PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
Virtual

A quorum was met for the January 19, 2022 meeting of the Palos Park Library Board. Present: Gurb Ahluwalia, Mary Lou Bareither, Kathy Branigan, Kathy Finan, and Jennifer Gallagher. Also present: Resident, Amanda Neely and Kathryn Sofianos, Library Director.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 pm.

Public Comments

Sofia Anastopoulos, the Director of Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund (IMET), spoke to the Board about the Library's investments in IMET.

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2021

Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the Secretary's Minutes of the November 17, 2021 Board Meeting. Kathy Branigan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

Approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of December 15, 2021

Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the Secretary's Minutes of the December 15, 2021 Board Meeting. Kathy Finan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

Approve the Minutes of the Executive Session of December 15, 2021

Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the Secretary's Executive Session Minutes of the December 15, 2021 Board Meeting. Kathy Branigan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

Bonnie Triezenberg, an employee of the library, sent a letter to the Board thanking them for her bonus and all the support they provide to the Library and its staff.

Library Director's Report

- Mary Lou Parsons was hired as the library's new Youth Services Coordinator. Mary Lou is an experienced educator who has a strong connection to the Palos Park community. She worked for many years as a teacher at Southwest Suburban Montessori. Mary Lou started the position on January 4th.
- On December 3rd staff participated in an In Service titled "Compassion Fatigue". The presentation featured Ryan Dowd who discussed how to maintain composure and develop coping techniques when compassion fatigue sets in. The talk focused on how to better serve patrons by being your best self.
- The library participated in the community tree decorating contest. Unfortunately, the village had only the library and garden guild as participants. Hopefully, next year, there will be more organizations involved.
- From mid-November to mid-January the library held a hat and mitten drive for Together We Cope, accepted donations for the Palos Park Police Cadet Food Drive, and items for P.A.W.S. The library partnered with Stagg High School students to collect broken Christmas

lights for recycling and Adult Programming Coordinator, Emily Hampston, organized a holiday card making program. The cards were mailed to the Chicago organization Cards for Hospitalized Kids.

- An all-ages Winter Reading Challenge started on January 1st. The online challenge is sponsored by Lerner Publishing Group. The more minutes participants read the more chances the library has to win prizes – such as books for the library collection and virtual author talks – from Lerner Publishing. By participating in the challenge, patrons will earn digital badges, a membership button, and ticket entries for grand prizes.

Review of the Monthly Financial Reports

a. Payment of Bills - November 18, 2021 through December 18, 2021

The Board reviewed and discussed the payment of bills for November 18, 2021 through December 18, 2021. Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Kathy Finan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

b. Payment of Bills – December 19, 2021 through January 19, 2022

The Board reviewed and discussed the payment of bills for December 19, 2021 through January 19, 2022. Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Kathy Branigan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

c. Monthly Statement – November 2021

The Board reviewed and discussed the monthly statement for November 2021. Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the statements. Kathy Branigan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

d. Monthly Statement – December 2021

The Board reviewed and discussed the monthly statement for December 2021. Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the statements. Kathy Finan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

a. Intergovernmental Agreement for Joint Purchasing of Library Programming and Events

Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the *Intergovernmental Agreement for Joint Purchasing of Library Programming, Events, and Purchases* for a six-month term. Kathy Branigan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

b. Remote Work Policy

Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to approve the *Remote Work Policy* with the removal of the word “rarely.” Kathy Branigan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

c. Paid Sick Leave Policy Due to COVID-19

Kathy Branigan made a motion to approve the *Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy Due to COVID-19* with corrections. Kathy Finan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Adjournment

Mary Lou Bareither made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm. Kathy Branigan seconded. Vote was taken by roll call and motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

Wednesday, March 15, 2022

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Submitted by: Kathy Branigan, Secretary