

**MINUTES of the MISSISSIPPI VALLEY LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

DATE: October 23, 2023

TIME: 6:30 PM

PLACE: Fairmont City Library, Fairmont City, IL

Call to Order

Jeanne Lomax, President, called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

Roll Call

Trustees present:

Jeanne Lomax, President
Ginny York, Vice-President
Cathy Kulupka, Treasurer
Lisa McCormick, Secretary
Kathy Murphy, Trustee
Ana Romero-Lizana, Trustee
Mark Schusky, Trustee

Trustees absent:

Also present:

Kyla Waltermire, Executive Director
Matt Harris, Assistant Director

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Input

Michael Treece: Supports LGBTQ+ material in the library and recommends the Board support the Executive Director regarding tax levy.

Lisa Campoli: Believes the board can cut taxes and be effective. Regarding LGBTQ+, all resources should be available; doesn't believe they need to be front and center in the library.

DeeAnna Beckham: Regarding the book It's Perfectly Normal, it should not have been moved to parental resource section of the library, it should be available in the children's library. She believes rainbows aren't an agenda.

Chad Lomax: He believes It's Perfectly Normal is a lewd and lascivious book and should not be in the children's library.

Cynthia Klein-Webb: She attended a recent event for Banned Books Week and provided the board with resources (handout included with filed meeting packet).

Paul Nicolussi: He showed pictures in the book It's Perfectly Normal and believes the book is inappropriate for young children.

Dale Horstman: He expressed support for Lomax and believes the book It's Perfectly Normal is inappropriate for children.

Renee Kohme: She believes that having It's Perfectly Normal in the children's library overshadows parental authority.

Scott Biggers: He referenced a study about single parent vs. mother-and-father families and that there is a breakdown of the family structure and more sexualization of children occurring.

Lea York: She is a teacher in the district who works with disadvantaged children and believes the last thing they need is more exposure to inappropriate materials.

Dorothy Joyce: She believes the book It's Perfectly Normal should not be banned but put in a place where parents can access it.

Nathan York: He believes the library has limited resources and that books such as It's Perfectly Normal can't be at the top of the list on which to expend resources. He wants to see resources spent on books more people will want to see.

Friends of the Library

- Book sale Nov. 3 and 4 at Collinsville Library. Fill a bag full of books for \$5.

Trustee Comment

Kulupka wished the Friends of the Library a happy Friends of the Library week.

Romero-Lizana invited everyone to the Fairmont City Trunk and Treat, Friday Oct. 27 from 6:00-7:00 PM.

Lomax said she understands the community is divided and she appreciates the public input comments. She also disputes the idea of anyone banning books. Books are available via the library system. She feels that books should be placed in age-appropriate areas.

Consent Items

A motion to approve Consent Items in their entirety was made by McCormick and seconded by Romero-Lizana.

- a. Approval of Minutes – Public Hearing of Sept. 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting of Sept. 18, 2023, and Finance Committee Meeting of Oct. 9, 2023 – no discussion or modification.

b. Communications:

- Thank you card from Matt Harris
- Email from Barbara Rhodes regarding maintenance on Blum House

c. Administrative Reports

Executive Director:

- Waltermire provided a handout for iLEAD, a public library trustee online training program. She will provide more information as it becomes available.
- Waltermire informed the Board that the Regional Business Council Grant was not funded.
- Waltermire announced two vacant clerk positions were filled.
- Google View will be photographing the Blum House on Nov. 13. The walk-through images will be put on the library's website for potential renters to see the home's interior.
- Lomax thought it was wonderful that the library was applying for the 2023 Thinking Money for Kids Program Kits, teaching children about finance.

Assistant Director:

- Harris reminded everyone about the Trunk or Treat at Fairmont City Friday Oct. 27 and the Tree Lighting ceremony in November.
- Harris reported that one of the front doors to the Fairmont City Library was broken by the landscaping company and that they will cover costs to replace it.

d. Finances – Finances reviewed.

e. Committee Reports

- Finance Committee meeting occurred on October 18, 2023 at 5:00 PM.
- Decennial Committee meeting occurred on October 23, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to approve consent items:

Cathy Kulupka – Yes
Jeanne Lomax – Yes
Lisa McCormick - Yes
Kathy Murphy - Yes
Ana Romero-Lizana - Yes
Mark Schusky - Yes
Ginny York - Yes

Yes- 7, No – 0, Abstained – 0, Absent – 0

Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

- a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Grant from the Agency for Community Transit for Transportation Needs for Patrons of the MLVD

-Waltermire reported that there has been a lot of back-and-forth between the Agency for Community Transit (ACT) and Illinois Library Association's (ILA) Funds for Illinois Libraries to come up with wording amenable to both groups indicating that, while the ILA is the project sponsor for financial reasons, the MVLD will be responsible for project implementation, submitting reports and reimbursement requests and so on. ACT has signed off on the wording and we are waiting for ILA to give the green light.

New Business

- a. Adoption of the Resolution 24-01: Resolution to Determine Estimate of Funds Needed for FY2023

-It was decided that more information was required before a funding number was agreed upon. Due to time constraints the Finance Committee recommended an 8% levy increase for the resolution with the understanding that the number would be revisited and potentially modified once more information was obtained.

-The resolution is an estimate only and the final levy numbers will require additional conversation. The final tax levy and the estimate of funds needed do not have to match.

- Due to the estimate of funds needed being over 5%, it is required the Board hold a Truth in Taxation meeting prior to Nov. 20 Board meeting.

Kulupka motioned and Schusky seconded to Adopt Resolution 24-01.

A roll call was taken on the motion:

Cathy Kulupka – Yes
Jeanne Lomax – Yes
Lisa McCormick - Yes
Kathy Murphy - Yes
Ana Romero-Lizana - Yes
Mark Schusky - Yes
Ginny York – No

Yes- 6, No – 1, Abstained – 0, Absent – 0

Motion carried.

- b. Select Meeting Date and Time for Truth in Taxation Act Hearing

-The meeting will be held prior to the start of the Nov. 20, 2023 Regular Board meeting at 6:30 PM.

- c. Adoption of Ordinance 23-04.1: Revision of Ordinance Adopting Regular Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations for FY 2023-2024

-Due to the attendance growth of meetings, Blum House location will be changed to the Community Room in the Collinsville Library. There will be no change to the Fairmont City meeting location.

Schusky motioned and Murphy seconded to Adopt Ordinance 23-04.1.

A roll call was taken on the motion:

Cathy Kulupka – Yes
Jeanne Lomax – Yes
Lisa McCormick - Yes
Kathy Murphy - Yes
Ana Romero-Lizana - Yes
Mark Schusky - Yes
Ginny York – Yes

Yes- 7, No – 0, Abstained – 0, Absent – 0
Motion carried.

d. Review of Serving Our Public 4.0 Chapter 12 & 13 – no discussion.

Closed Session – None.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Romero-Lizana and seconded by Kulupka to adjourn.

A voice vote was taken on the motion.

Cathy Kulupka – Yes
Jeanne Lomax – Yes
Lisa McCormick - Yes
Kathy Murphy - Yes
Ana Romero-Lizana - Yes
Mark Schusky - Yes
Ginny York – Yes

Yes- 7, No – 0, Abstained – 0, Absent – 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.