



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Thursday, June 6, 2024

5:00 PM

Sequoia Library, 4340 Tokay Blvd.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 9 - Sabrina V. Madison; Lisa C. Hempstead; Thomas A. DeChant; Plumer B. Lovelace III; Jolynne M. Roorda; Alyssa C. Kenney; Salud B. Garcia; Genevieve A. Carter and Mathias N. Lemos Castillo

A quorum was present and the meeting properly noticed.

Alyssa Kenney called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Jolynne Roorda and Alder Madison attended via phone.

Jolynne Roorda arrived at 5:09 and Salud García arrived at 5:12

MPL staff present: Tana Elias, Krissy Wick, Yesi Ramirez, Molly Warren, Mark Benno, Marc Gartler, Pat Garvey, Holly Storck-Post, Tina Marie Maes, Isis Newman

Also present: Bryan Chan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Lovelace III, seconded by Lemos Castillo, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

No disclosures or recusals were made.

BOARD EXCHANGE

Tom DeChant reminded the board that there is a city-wide book sale at the Library Support Center on June 29th from 9-3. Tana Elias congratulated Plumer Lovelace, who was recently awarded the one of the first Distinguished Alumni Awards by the UW Madison Communication Arts dept. Plumer received the Career Impact Award for his leadership at several organizations and his commitment to public service.

ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

Kim Zablud from Advancing with Purpose presented on the organizational assessment process. The board expressed interest in regular updates as things progress.

OPERATING BUDGET PRESENTATION

Tana Elias presented a review on the current budget planning climate with some generalized potential scenarios and asked the board to provide guidance and priorities on how to build the 2025 operating budget. The board expressed the wish to move forward with Reindahl, minimize layoffs, look at contracts that could be ended or not renewed, make a mix of cuts, and look into optimizing foundation money. Other guidance included looking into the savings of closing each library for 1 day a week and to do an equity analysis on any potential cuts.

REVIEW THE AGENDA

[83718](#)

Director's Report - May, 2024

A motion was made by Hempstead, seconded by Lemos Castillo, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

[83716](#)

Approval of the 2025 Cataloging Services Agreement

A motion was made by DeChant, seconded by Hempstead, to Approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Sabrina V. Madison; Lisa C. Hempstead; Thomas A. DeChant; Plumer B. Lovelace III; Jolynne M. Roorda; Alyssa C. Kenney; Genevieve A. Carter and Mathias N. Lemos Castillo

Abstentions: 1 - Salud B. Garcia

[83728](#)

Approval of the April 2024 Financial Statements.

A motion was made by Garcia, seconded by Carter, to Approve. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

DIRECTOR ONBOARDING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Tom DeChant and Gen Carter reported that the committee has been updating the previous director evaluation form. The updates include changing the number of metrics to eight and adjusting the rating scale to be more precise. The original and updated versions will be provided to the board for review.

FACILITIES REPORT

Mark Benno reported on the duckling rescue that happened on the green roof at Central earlier that day. All duckling safe and reunited with mom. Referring back to the budget discussion, Mark explained that if the 2025 budget includes a delay in putting the construction of the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park out to bid it would be ok for it delay up to a year or so. Once several years go

by it would essentially be starting back over. Mark drew attention to the new AV in the meeting room at Sequoya and thanked Pat Garvey, MPL's IT Specialist. Sequoya will also be getting a new roof and parking lot in the coming years.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Bryan Chan reported on behalf of the MPL Foundation Board. At the May 6th Foundation board meeting the grants committee approved \$104,000 in new funding to the library included \$50,000 for collections to support the purchase of high-interest titles. It also included funding for programs at all 9 libraries, another year of membership in the with the Urban Libraries Council and the continuation of English language courses at Goodman South. Foundation staff were pleased to attend and provide funding for Staff Day on May 31st. Four members of Foundation staff are going to Washington DC to participate in the International Public Library Fundraising Conference. On July 24th there will be a invite-only State of the Library event at Central which will feature Tana Elias in conversation with Conor Moran about their visions for the future, strategic priorities and the role donor and advocates can play.

FRIENDS REPORT

No report

SOUTH CENTRAL LIBRARY REPORT

Salúd García reported that in the last SCLS board meeting they looked at how they were doing in terms of serving their members and had a presentation on book bans and challenges. Their lobbyist says that there have been twice as many book challenges in the first 4 months of this year as there was all of last year. Since 2021 groups have been making challenges to dozens of books at once. Forty-seven of the challenges titles have been the voices or lived experiences of LGBTQ+ or BIPOC writers. The board had a survey and all member libraries have policies on book challenges.

DANE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE REPORT

No report

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Garcia, seconded by Hempstead, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

The board said goodbye to Alyssa Kenney and thanked her for her years of service.