

STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2024, @ 6:30 P.M.
HYBRID MEETING IN CARNEGIE ROOM
& VIA ZOOM



PRESENT: Ken Axe; Lora Klitzke, President; Teri LeSage; Jean Ligocki, City Council Representative (virtual); Sharon Meilahn Bartlett, Vice-President (virtual); Erin Meinholz; Trista Richards; Katie Roberts (virtual); Mande Shecterle, Stoughton Area School District Representative; Siri Vienneau, Student Trustee
ALSO PRESENT: Jim Ramsey, Library Director; Sarah Monette, Administrative Assistant; Lesley Johnson, President of the Friends of the Stoughton Public Library

- I. CALL TO ORDER. 6:33 P.M. by President Lora Klitzke
- II. REVIEW OF AGENDA & CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW. Klitzke moved up item XIII.A.

[Vienneau arrived at 6:34 p.m.]

- III. CONSENT AGENDA. *Motion to approve: Axe. Second: LeSage. Vote: 9-0.*
- IV. WELCOME TO OUR NEW TRUSTEE: KATIE ROBERTS. The Board welcomed Roberts and everyone introduced themselves.
- V. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT. Johnson presented. The Friends had a table at the Saturday farmer's market this summer; they participated in National Night Out; raised \$700 from their wine tasting and \$5,000 from their raffle, with the drawing held during ArtWalk; had a table at the Library's Mini Ren Faire; at their annual meeting on October 8, voted to give \$20,000 to the Library next year. They are also setting aside funds for a special project in 2025, which will be decided in consultation with Ramsey. Their 40th Anniversary celebration is Oct. 20. National Friends of the Library Week is October 20-26. They are starting to plan their Mini Golf Fundraiser, to be held on March 16, 2025.

[Johnson left at 6:44 p.m.]

- VI. RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES. Vienneau suggested a thank you to Cynthia Schlegel for her work on the Mini Ren Faire.
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD. n/a
- VIII. REVIEW/DISCUSSION OF CORRESPONDENCE. Ramsey shared a thank you to the library and an email praising two staff members.
- IX. EDUCATION UPDATES. Axe shared an article about libraries providing services to start-ups. Meilahn Bartlett shared an article about book banning, noting that the two top states for book bans are Florida and Iowa. Roberts shared that many students in Wisconsin technical colleges' 2-year degree for rural librarians are getting hired before they finish their coursework.
- X. BOARD IN-SERVICE: TRUSTEE ESSENTIAL #9: MANAGING THE LIBRARY'S MONEY. Ramsey presented.

- XI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT. In addition to his written report, Ramsey reported that the Mini Ren Faire went well, thanks especially to Cynthia Schlegel, Mary Ostrander, and Amanda Bosky. There were about 500 people in attendance. Road construction is on schedule; gate count is down, but not as much as one might expect, and program attendance seems to be holding steady. Klitzke asked about the Wellness Coalition; the Library is exploring the possibility of collaboration on programs and outreach about health and substance abuse.
- XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- A. Finance: LeSage reported. The committee discussed grant opportunities and recommended approval of the 2025 budget
 - B. Personnel: did not meet.
 - C. Planning: did not meet
 - D. Policies: did not meet
- XIII. OLD BUSINESS. n/a
- XIV. NEW BUSINESS.
- A. Discussion and possible action regarding 2025 Library Operating Budget. Ramsey presented. *Motion to approve: Axe. Second: Ligocki. Vote: 9-0.* Axe asked about the HVAC replacement. It is capital expenditure and is still scheduled for late 2024 or possibly early 2025. LeSage mentioned that while the contractor rather than the Library gets the tax credit, the Library can ask for a donation.
 - B. Approval of Memorandum of Mutual Accountability for Beyond the Page and the Ripple Project. *Motion to approve: LeSage. Second: Meinholz. Vote: 9-0.*
- XV. PENDING AGENDA ITEMS.
- A. Discussion of library closures on federal holidays not currently designated as paid holidays by the City of Stoughton: Presidents' Day, Juneteenth, Indigenous Peoples' Day, and Veterans Day.
 - B. Reminder for standing committees to review, and possibly report on, their progress toward the 2024 Board Goals throughout the year.
 - C. Discussion of additional funding sources for library programming and operations.
- XVI. ADJOURNMENT. *Motion to adjourn at 7:39 P.M.: Richards Second: LeSage Vote: 9-0.*

Minutes taken by Sarah Monette.