

STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, @ 6:30 P.M.  
HYBRID MEETING IN CARNEGIE ROOM  
& VIA ZOOM



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

- I. CALL TO ORDER. 6:33 P.M. by President Lora Klitzke
- II. REVIEW OF AGENDA & CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW.
- III. CONSENT AGENDA. *Motion to approve: Axe. Second: Meilahn Bartlett. Vote: 7-0.*
- IV. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT. n/a
- V. RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES. The Board signed a card thanking James and Nancy Keough for their donation to the Library in memory of Tom Selsor.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD. n/a
- VII. REVIEW/DISCUSSION OF CORRESPONDENCE. Ramsey shared a thank you from a patron to Amanda Bosky.
- VIII. EDUCATION UPDATES. Meilahn Bartlett mentioned the Dear Colleague letter about race and diversity from the Department of Education. Roberts has the actual letter, which she shared with the Board.
- IX. BOARD IN-SERVICE: "Trustee Essential #17: Membership in the Library System." Ramsey presented.
- X. DIRECTOR'S REPORT.
  - A. Statistics for January 2025. Ramsey explained the change in computer use statistics.
  - B. Administration report. In addition to his written report, Ramsey shared that Library Legislative Day was a success, with more than 230 people attending. The Governor's biennial budget increases money allocated to library systems, although the Joint Finance Committee has announced that they are scrapping the whole thing and starting over. The WLA lobbyist warned everyone that a bill is being introduced to remove librarians' immunity from prosecution for obscenity, but he also said it's highly unlikely to go anywhere. Ramsey followed up on an email he had sent about a possible Hoopla lawsuit. Meilahn Bartlett asked for names of library allies in the State Legislature. Ligocki asked about the donation in memory of Tammy Kuntz. The Kuntz family want some part of the money spent on a physical object. Possibilities include upgrades to the Carnegie Room or a piece of art to replace the portrait of Andrew Carnegie hanging over the fireplace. Ligocki asked about possibly using part of the Kuntz donation on storytelling kits that patrons could check out. Ligocki also noted the Restorative Justice workshop on April 15. Ramsey praised Amanda Bosky's work on securing that grant.
- XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS.
  - A. Finance: did not meet.

- B. Personnel: did not meet.
- C. Planning: did not meet.
- D. Policies: did not meet

XII. OLD BUSINESS.

- A. Approval of 2025 Library Board Goals from Planning Committee. Ramsey presented the final draft. *Motion to adopt the 2025 Library Board Goals*: Ligocki. *Second*: Meinholz. *Vote*: 7-0.
- B. Update on new trustee recruitment process. Ramsey said that seven applications have been received thus far. The deadline is March 14. He has a list of interview questions drawn up by Amy Ketterer which he will share with the ad hoc committee. He suggests adding questions on intellectual freedom and DEI. Meilahn Bartlett asked if there was a trustee exit survey. To the best of the combined memories of Ligocki, Ramsey, and Monette, there is not.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS.

- A. Approval of Stoughton Public Library 2024 Annual Report to the Department of Public Instruction. Ramsey presented. *Motion to approve*: Meilahn Bartlett. *Second*: Ligocki. *Vote*: 7-0.
- B. Approval of statement concerning public library system effectiveness. Ramsey presented. *Motion to approve*: Ligocki. *Second*: Meinholz. *Vote*: 7-0.
- C. Authorization to spend up to \$5,000 in fund balance for diversity audit of the library's collection. There was considerable discussion both of the audit and of the fund balance. The Library remains committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and access. The Board agreed to put a discussion of the General Fund balance under Pending Agenda Items. *Moved to authorize expenditure of up to \$5,000 in fund balance for Inclusion Audit of the library's collection*: Ligocki. *Second*: Klitzke. *Vote*: 7-0.
- D. Appointment by Board President of ad hoc Student Trustee Recruitment Committee. Klitzke asked Roberts to join her on the ad hoc committee. Roberts agreed. Ramsey will assist. There was discussion of ways to broaden the applicant pool (i.e., reaching out to Stoughton area churches).
- E. Discussion and possible action regarding Library participation in the 2025 Chamber of Commerce Community Expo. Ramsey explained that the board usually approves expenditures of up to \$300 for the registration fee and things like candy and other giveaways for the booth. Ligocki, Roberts, Meilahn Bartlett agreed to attend. Axe called the question. *Motion to approve expenditure of up to \$300 from the Undesignated Gift Fund for the Community Expo*: Ligocki. *Second*: Meinholz. *Vote*: 7-0.

XIV. PENDING AGENDA ITEMS.

- A. Reminder for standing committees to review, and possibly report on, their progress toward the annual Board Goals throughout the year.
- B. Discussion of additional funding sources for library programming and operations.

- XV. ADJOURNMENT. *Motion to adjourn at 8:17 P.M.*: Meilahn Bartlett. *Second*: Axe. *Vote*: 7-0.

Minutes taken by Sarah Monette.