

PARK FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

January 20, 2022

The regular meeting of the Park Forest Public Library Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Those present were:

Park Forest Public Library Board Members: Sevena Merchant, Linda Marron, Lance Jefferson, Alice McBride, and Alan Shnay

Absent: Felicia Rangel (arrived 7:35 pm) and Janis Elmore (arrived 7:36 pm)

Park Forest Public Library Staff: Barbara Osuch, George Manno, Jennifer Oosterbaan, Katherine Goosby, and Mary VanSwol

Also present: Candyce Herron

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2021, the special meeting of November 15, 2021, and the special meeting of December 16, 2021, were approved as submitted.

COMMUNICATIONS

Library Director Osuch noted that staff members Nikki Coleman and Tom Falkenthal were nominated for the 2022 Park Forest Oscar Awards. She congratulated them for this honor.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

No one addressed the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Library Director Osuch noted that the November and December financial reports were included in the packet. The audit report was emailed to the trustees earlier. Any Board member who wants a paper copy may pick one up at the Library.

REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

President Merchant stated that the Olympia Fields Public Library Board will be approving the contract soon.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

Library Director Osuch recognized staff anniversaries. Bill Wallace – 5 years, Katherine Goosby – 10 years, Tom Falkenthal – 10 years, Loretta Knight – 15 years

The Library welcomed a new staff member, Elijah Gardner Woods.

ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

Library Director Osuch stated that libraries are working together to get bigger name authors for prices that are affordable. The first Zoom program is January 26 with author Silvia Moreno-Garcia. The cost for Park Forest Public Library is \$375.

Trustee Marron moved that the Board approve the Intergovernmental Agreement to join Illinois Libraries Present.

Trustee Jefferson seconded.

The motion passed.

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AND PERSONNEL POLICY – 1ST DRAFT

President Merchant stated that Juneteenth is a federal and state holiday. The Board needs to decide whether the Library will close for a holiday on Juneteenth. Trustee Elmore suggested having special programs for Juneteenth instead of closing the Library. Park Forest Village Hall is closing on Juneteenth. Trustee Jefferson suggested staying in sync with Village Hall and closing if they are closing. The Board discussed different options of celebrating Juneteenth.

CLOSURE FOR ELECTRICAL REPAIRS – JANUARY 26

President Merchant stated that the electrical repairs need to be done during the week because the company will not work on a Sunday. Staff member George Manno stated that the company is scheduling their crew for 12 hours.

Trustee Rangel moved that the Library close on January 26, 2022, for electrical repairs. Trustee Elmore seconded.

The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.