



REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHOREWOOD LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Approved Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2023

Present: Trustee Smucker, Trustee Espera, Library Assistant Director Hayley Johnson, Jean Gurney, Nancy Beck, Lilly Dimitroff, and Jennie Stoltz

Present via Zoom: Trustee Craig de Silva, Trustee Couto, Trustee Warren, Superintendent Burgos, Jennifer Vulpas, Jen Gerber, Nyama Reed, Alexandra Dimitroff, Halea Fields, Claudia Levens, and Kathy Stokebrand

1. Call to Order

Acting President Smucker called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

2. Statement of Public Notice

Acting President Smucker stated that the meeting was properly noticed and posted according to law

3. Public Comments

Jean Gurney of Shorewood, WI made a public comment. (full comment recorded <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJ8IDkqNYal&t=90s> at time stamp 1:48)

Alexandra Dimitroff of Shorewood, WI made a public comment. (full comment recorded on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJ8IDkqNYal&t=90s> at time stamp 5:42)

4. Consideration of September 13 Meeting minutes

An amendment was requested to the September 2023 meeting minutes. Trustee Espera moved to approve the September 13, 2023 meeting minutes with an amendment to action item number nine and Trustee Smucker seconded. Trustees Craig de Silva, Smucker and Espera, and Superintendent Burgos voted in favor. Trustees Couto and Warren abstained. Motion carried by a vote of 4 - 0.

5. Consent Agenda

Trustee Espera moved to approve the consent agenda and Trustee Craig de Silva seconded. Trustees Craig de Silva, Smucker and Espera, and Superintendent Burgos voted in favor. Trustees Couto and Warren abstained. Motion carried by a vote of 4 - 0.

6. Election of Officers

Trustee Smucker opened the floor for nominations. Trustee Warren nominated Trustee Couto for Library Board President. Trustee Espera nominated Trustee Smucker for Library Board President. Trustee Espera moved to close nominations for President and Superintendent Burgos seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 6 - 0. Trustee Smucker opened the floor for discussion of the nominees.

After some discussion, Trustee Warren moved to vote on the current nominees and Superintendent Burgos seconded.

After a roll call vote the results were as follows:

- 3 Votes for Trustee Couto: Burgos, Warren, Couto
- 3 Votes for Trustee Smucker: Craig de Silva, Espera, Smucker

Superintendent Burgos moved to table the vote until the next regular meeting of the Board and Trustee Couto seconded. The trustees discussed the nominations further. Trustee Couto moved to call the question.

Roll call vote on the question of tabling the election of officers: No: Espera, Craig de Silva, Smucker; Yes: Warren, Couto, Burgos. Tied, no decision.

After further discussion, Trustee Couto moved to table the election until the next meeting, move on to number nine on the agenda, and move forward with Trustee Smucker as interim President. Trustee Warren seconded. Roll call vote: Yes: Burgos, Warren, Couto; No: Craig de Silva, Espera, Smucker. Tied, no decision.

The trustees further discussed the nominations. Trustee Couto moved to table agenda item #6 and Trustee Craig de Silva seconded. Roll call vote: Yes: Burgos, Craig de Silva, Warren, Couto; No: Espera, Smucker. Motion carried by a vote of 4 -2.

7. Committee Assignments

Trustee Smucker moved to table the committee assignments and Trustee Couto seconded. All voted in favor and motion carried. (6 - 0)

8. Assistant Director's Report

Ms. Johnson highlighted key elements of her report and provided answers to questions from the members of the board.

9. Friends of the Library Report

Ms. Johnson presented a report of the Friends' recent meeting.

10. Finance Committee Report

Trustee Smucker reported on the Wells Fargo check deposits to GMF Board Directed Reserve Fund. He also discussed online access for GMF.

11. Personnel Committee Report

The personnel committee did not meet this month.

12. Ad hoc Library Director Hiring Committee

Acting President Smucker asked for volunteers to serve on the ad hoc hiring committee. He would like to include as many stakeholders as possible for different perspectives. He first asked for a volunteer to chair the committee. After some discussion Trustee Couto moved to table this item and the motion was seconded by Trustee Warren. All voted in favor and the motion passed. (6 - 0)

13. Leadership development and training for library employees

The trustees discussed bringing in a professional development or conflict resolution specialist to engage with library staff. Trustee Smucker will work with Assistant Director Johnson to hire and schedule the professional development session.

14. Library Board legal representation

Acting President Smucker made a case for the Library Board retaining their own legal representation, separate from the Village attorneys, as soon as possible. Trustees discussed implementing an RFP for the hiring of an attorney.

15. Communication from library board to library employees

The trustees discussed presenting a strong and unified message from the board to library staff.

(Trustee Warren had to leave the meeting at this time.)

Submitted by Library Office Manager/ Confidential Secretary on the 13th
day of December, 2023

16. Closed session -

Trustee Espera moved, seconded by Superintendent Burgos to convene into closed session per Wis. Stat. § 19.85 (1)(c), considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation of data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(f), considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. Motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote. The board discussed a privileged and confidential letter from the Village of Shorewood and new information regarding recent library staff resignations. Discussed whether to reconsider the acceptance of any resignations. Trustees voted to reconvene into open session and voted 4-1 to re-accept Director Gerber's resignation.

17. Adjournment

Closed Session minutes submitted by Jon Smucker on the 10th day of December, 2023