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**Minutes of the Ramsey County Library Board of Trustees**  
**October 19, 2022**

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

Grace Atkins, Claire Chang, Sida Ly-Xiong, Andrea West, Steve Woods.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Pang Yang, Deputy Director; Jeff Eide, Senior Library Manager, Planning and Analysis; Chuck Wettergren, Digital Services Manager; Monica Stratton, Branch Manager; Maggie Soukup, Library Board Coordinator.

**OTHERS:**

Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County Commissioner; Johanna Berg, Deputy County Manager, Mary Worley, Executive Director, Ramsey County Library Friends; Les Sipkma, Shoreview Resident; Max Davis, ACET Inc.; Carlos Gallego, ACET Inc.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Woods called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

To view the public comments made by Shoreview Resident Les Sipkma, follow this [link](#). (01:00)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A request was made to move the strategic planning update with the individuals from ACET Inc. to the top of the agenda. A motion was made by Ly-Xiong to approve the revised agenda. West seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Chang to approve the consent agenda items as presented. The motion was seconded by Ly-Xiong, which passed unanimously.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE WITH ACET INC. (09:40)**

Max Davis and Carlos Gallego from ACET Inc., gave an update on the strategic planning process. ACET Inc. was tasked with developing a clear, relatable plan that was understood by all staff and stakeholders including the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Woods stressed how crucial the strict timeline to completion is since several Trustees that have been involved in the planning process will not be serving on the board after the December meeting. He requested that a draft product be available for the Trustees to review at the November meeting. This will give the Trustees adequate time to review and reflect before the December meeting.

Many Trustees expressed disappointment in how slow the process has been and that they had hoped to see, at least, emerging top priorities today.

Deputy Director Pang is hopeful to be able to provide the Trustees a more completed plan at the next meeting but explained the importance of ensuring that the final product reflects all stakeholder's feedback.

To view the entire discussion, follow this [link](#). (09:04)

#### **DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER UPDATE**

Presented by Deputy County Manager Berg. Her update can be found by following this [link](#). (40:50)

#### **RAMSEY COUNTY BOARD LIAISON REPORT**

Presented by Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt. Her report can be found by following this [link](#). (42:50)

#### **MAPLEWOOD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Executive Director Mary Worley shared that the Executive Committee of the Ramsey County Library Friends voted last week to suspend the Maplewood Capital Campaign at this time. The lack of leadership and partnership with community stakeholders, local leadership and city officials made the campaign not feasible. Worley suggested that the Friends may consider restarting the campaign in the future. To view Worley's update, follow this [link](#). (53:00)

#### **MAPLEWOOD RENOVATION UPDATE**

Branch Manager Monica Stratton gave an update on the Maplewood renovation project. Stratton shared architectural renderings, carpet and paint samples and images of potential furniture that are currently available to sit-test at the Maplewood branch. She explained that the branch is tentatively scheduled to be closed starting early December to allow staff time to pack up library items with January 2, 2023 slated to be the first day of construction. Stratton is working with Circulation Supervisor Pete Hedberg decide where staff will go during the closure. To view Stratton's entire update, follow this [link](#). (57:45)

#### **APPROVAL OF CONSULTANT CONTRACT:**

West made a motion approve the funds for the Center for Economic Inclusion (CEI) consulting contract recommended by Deputy County Manager Berg. Atkins seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Ly-Xiong made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm. West seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.