

Minutes of the Ramsey County Library Board of Trustees
February 15, 2023

LIBRARY TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Grace Atkins, Stephen Fitze, Jason Isaacson, Marissa Kirby, Kami Miller, Andrea West.

STAFF PRESENT:

Pang Yang, Deputy Director; Chuck Wettergren, Digital Services Manager; Maggie Soukup, Library Board Coordinator.

OTHERS:

Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County Commissioner; Johanna Berg, Deputy County Manager.

CALL TO ORDER:

Berg called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

To view the public comments made by Susan Johnson, Ramsey County resident, follow this [link](#). (0:42)

ORIENTATION WRAP UP

Meeting Schedule and Attendance/ Library Board Documents

Soukup shared that the 2023 meeting dates had been approved but there was some flexibility in the meeting location. She asked that if any Trustees are unable to attend a meeting that they contact the Board Chair and herself to ensure that the meeting has a quorum. Soukup also shared that a per diem form is available at each meeting for Trustees as well as sent electronically after each meeting.

Advisory Board Update

As a follow up to the discussion in January, Berg shared more information on the possible transition to an advisory board. She explained that with the new structure the county will oversee the library's budget, make policies more consistent with county operations and hire the new library director. In turn, the Trustees would focus on helping shape policy and reviewing the resident-focused programs and services.

To view the entire discussion, follow this [link](#). (9:40)

LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

To listen to the introductions, follow this [link](#). (13:33)

BOARD ELECTIONS

A motion was made by Trustee West to nominate Grace Atkins as Library Board Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitze made a motion to nominate himself as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Atkins to nominate Andrea West as Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

Miller volunteered to be the primary liaison to the Ramsey County Library Friends. If she is unable to attend one of the scheduled meetings a alternate Trustee will attend in her place.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2022 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by West to approve the December meeting minutes as presented. Isaacson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER UPDATE

Presented by Deputy County Manager Berg. Her update can be found by following this [link](#). (38:06)

RAMSEY COUNTY BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Presented by Commissioner Reinhardt. Her report can be viewed by following this [link](#). (46:45)

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

Atkins led a discussion about what the Trustees would like to see as future meeting topics. They stated that reoccurring topics would include items such as strategic plan updates and budget planning discussions. Atkins also suggested that at the beginning of each meeting, Trustees could share if they had any interactions with or at the libraries.

Several Trustees indicated that they would like to revisit the conversation around the director search process and progress. Berg gave a brief update on the search and agreed to share the foundational agreement, that was signed last December, with the Trustees.

Atkins reiterated that Trustees could email them or Soukup at any point throughout the month if they had topics they would like to see added to the agenda.

To view the entire discussion, follow this [link](#). (48:30)

ADJOURNMENT:

Fitze made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm. Isaacson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.