
Minutes of the Ramsey County Library Board
November 15, 2023

LIBRARY ADVISORY PRESENT:

Grace Atkins, Marissa Kirby-Stofferahn, Kami Miller, Andrea West

STAFF PRESENT:

Pang Yang, Deputy Director; Maggie Soukup, Library Board Coordinator

OTHERS:

Johanna Berg, Deputy County Manager.

CALL TO ORDER:

Atkins called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

APPROVALS

November Agenda

A motion was made by West to approve the November agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Miller, which was approved unanimously.

June 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Kirby-Stofferahn to approve the October 18 meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Miller, which was approved unanimously.

Ramsey County Library Board Bylaws

A motion was made by West to approve the Library Advisory Board Bylaws with the proposed changes. Miller seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

UPDATES

Johanna Berg, Deputy County Manager

Berg shared that the 2024-25 operating budget will go to the December 12 County Board meeting for approval. Berg explained that there had been two public hearings as well as opportunities for staff to provide feedback.

When asked for an update on the status of the Library Director position Berg explained that she was working closely with the folks from Center for Economic Inclusion (CEI) to gauge their sense of readiness to move forward with the posting. Berg will provide updates as more information becomes available.

Pang Yang, Ramsey County Libraries Deputy Director

Yang shared that the Maplewood grand opening event was very successful with over 400 visitors in the first hour and over 1,300 throughout the day. She also shared that at the November 14 County Board meeting, Commissioners accepted two large donations for Ramsey County Libraries. The first was an \$18,000 donation from the Roseville Rotary and the second was a \$10,000 from the Baxter estate. Pang explained that the Rotary donation funds will be used to update the furniture in the Children's Reading Room at the Roseville branch and the Baxter estate funds will be used to support outreach initiatives to underserved communities.

NEXT STEPS

Chair Atkins reminded the board that December meeting has been cancelled and that the next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2024 at the Ramsey County Maplewood library. At the meeting in January the 2024 meeting dates will be approved as well voting for the Chair and Vice Chair position. Future meeting agenda items identified by the board include staff project charter updates, outreach and community engagement initiatives, data security, strengthening the relationship with the Friends, and updates from staff and frontline employees.

ADJOURNMENT

Atkins asked for a motion to adjourn. West made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Kirby-Stofferahn seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.