

**MINUTES
Board of Library Commissioners
of the City of Grand Rapids
December 14, 2021 – 5:15 pm
Regular Board Meeting**

Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Rachel Anderson, Deborah Bose, Kelly Boston, James Botts, Sophia Brewer, Kathryn Dilley, Shelia Garcia Mazari

Board Members Absent:

Administration Present: Robert Adcock, John Bosma, Kristen Krueger-Corrado, John McNaughton, Briana Trudell

Staff Present:

Public Present: Jennifer Kasper and Josh Naramore, GR Mobile & Parking Services; Josh Rozeboom, Fishbeck, Andrea Anderson and Dustin Kuzee, City of GR Steven Assarian, GREIU

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: By Commissioner Brewer, supported by Commissioner Boston, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of November 30, 2021.

ACTION: AYES 7 – 0

Motion passed.

4. BOARD COMMENTS

García Mazari stated that she appreciated GRPL's presentation at the Latino Community Coalition, where the presenters stated that GRPL has room to improve in including more Latinx cultures in their programming.

She also commended GRPL on their security training.

Brewer stated that the updates in the Director's Report are dynamic and show that the library is active, learning, and moving forward. She continued that she appreciates the collaborations and outreach efforts.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Nominating Committee Appointment

Anderson asked who would like to be on the committee. Brewer volunteered and was appointed as the committee.

6. STAFF & FOUNDATION REPORTS

A. Library Director's Report

McNaughton introduced John Bosma to the board and asked him to give a year-end update on GRPL's safety and security. Bosma addressed the board, highlighting some of the trends that the library has been seeing and the library's response to those trends. He also informed the board of the library's partnerships with local service providers for education and training for staff. He added that Safe Haven will hold office hours at the Main Library to help connect patrons with the resource.

The board, McNaughton, and Bosma then discussed safety and security at GRPL.

Brewer commented that, as a public space, the front-facing staff are approached with a lot of different people with a lot of different life experiences. She asked if the library is looking into applying for grants with IMLS to aid in mental illness services and encouraged the library to take advantage of these grants. Bosma stated that the library is looking into adding resource navigation to their list of services.

Brewer gave the library kudos for the vinyl project.

B. Financial Report

Adcock gave a summary of the fund balance report and stated that the library is in a good position.

C. Foundation Update

Poortenga wasn't able to make the meeting and sent McNaughton the foundation update.

At its Board meeting today, the GRPLF Board responded to the requests of GRPL and will add an April Granting cycle to work better with GRPL's Event Planning system and have increased the Mini Grant amount to \$1,000. We hope that these changes will allow the library some additional flexibility.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mobile GR Parking Structure Discussion

Naramore introduced his staff and the design firm representative Rozeboom. Rozeboom then gave the board a presentation of the idea of a parking structure that would be constructed in the Main Library parking lot.

Naramore then explained to the board why the City is revisiting this project. He and the board then discussed details around the process, community engagement, and what the next steps will look like.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2021 Meeting Schedule

MOTION: By Commissioner Botts, supported by Commissioner Brewer, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the proposed board meeting schedule for 2022.

Dilley commented that June 22 is a Wednesday. Trudell will adjust the date to reflect the proper date.

ACTION: AYES 7 – 0

Motion passed.

B. Closing Calendar 2022 – 2024

MOTION: By Commissioner Botts, supported by Commissioner Dilley, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the library’s closing calendar for 2022 – 2024.

ACTION: AYES 7 – 0

Motion passed

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Media Index

No comments.

B. Staff Changes Report

García Mazari asked if the percent of staff in quarantine is causing a strain for the organization. McNaughton replied that it is causing a strain on front-facing staff, but they are offering extra hours to allow for coverage.

C. Statistical Report for November 2021

Botts asked if the library is planning on adding more hold lockers to other branches. McNaughton stated that they are thinking about adding them at other branches and even off-site.

D. Board & Administrator, December 2021

No comments.

10. GRAND RAPIDS EMPLOYEES INDEPENDENT UNION

Assarian stated that the number of quarantine and positive cases have been a strain for front-facing staff and he appreciates the transparency of the organization.

13. AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING: JANUARY 2022

No comments.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments.

13. ADJOURNMENT

No comments.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.