

**MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
June 21, 2022 – 5:15 pm
111 Library St NE – Board Room**

1. ROLL CALL

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

Board Members Absent:

Administration Present: Robert Adcock, Jessica Anne Bratt, Kelly Dolson, John McNaughton, Patrick Beatty

Staff Present:

Public Present: Amy Alber, Steven Assarian, Angela Black, Andrew Coulon, and Julie Tabberer, GREIU

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: By Commissioner Botts, supported by Commissioner Boston, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the minutes of the regular and special board meetings on June 21, 2022.

ACTION: AYES 7 – 0

Motion passed

One note: John McNaughton's name is misspelled under "Library Director's report" (7a, Page 2).

4. BOARD COMMENTS

Boston stated that she's seen the library at two festivals this summer (AAPI and Pride).

Boston added that there is an effort happening in Michigan to ban conversion therapy. There are organizations, including library partners, who are being added to a website in support. Boston would like to add this to next month's agenda.

Botts asked for clarity as to whether or not the library would be taking a stand on this. Boston clarified that this is her recommendation.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comment.

6. STAFF & FOUNDATION REPORTS

a. Library Director’s Report

McNaughton told the board that the library is a cooling center and have bottled water, ice packs, and testing kits for COVID-19 available for the public’s use. Botts asked if folks need to cool off with a bottle of water whether they can just come and get one. McNaughton clarified, “yes.” Brewer asked how this was being promoted. McNaughton noted this is passively shared.

Rachel asked about the status of the GRPL app. Botts asked if the app collects data on patrons. McNaughton and Bratt responded that the app is not gathering and selling data. They explained that the organization that we partnered with works with public libraries. Boston asked if folks need to use Libby for eBooks. Bratt responded yes. Anderson commented further on the benefits of the app and how streamlined it is.

b. Financial Report

Adcock reminded the group that next month he will have a final summary.

c. Foundation Update

Poortenga was not present but sent a comment about the Foundation’s excitement over the crowd that attended Movies on the Lawn as well as their excitement for the Thursday Writers and Readers event.

7. OLD BUSINESS

No comments.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. BoLC Purchasing Policy Update

Anderson noted that this will go to the Policy Committee and will be on the agenda at a later date.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Media Index

No comments.

b. Staffing Report

No comments.

c. Professional Development and Travel Opportunities for FY23

Bose asked if we are opening this up to staff and others regarding opportunities for professional development. Bose is curious about when we may be announcing details so that she might take part in the opportunity. McNaughton clarified and noted that all staff are encouraged to participate.

Brewer asked if staff are attending ALA. General conversation between the group about when ALA is scheduled and the recurrence and location of the conference.

d. Statistical Report for May 2022

Anderson noted how gorgeous the report was and made a comment on the increase in physical check-outs. There was also a large increase in library card sign-ups. She noted that staff should be very proud.

The board appreciated the spotlight on the Maintenance Department.

Anderson asked about the recognition of service cards. Brewer asked if these cards will be delivered to these staff later or how they would be distributed. McNaughton noted that there should be write-ups for all staff. Write-ups were found (in the packet).

10. GRAND RAPIDS EMPLOYEES INDEPENDENT UNION

Assarian noted that they are still in bargaining. He added that he is looking forward to an amenable result in this season of bargaining.

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING: JULY 26, 2022

Conversion therapy.

Public comments.

Purchasing policy.

Questions regarding the Director's Review.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments.

13. ADJOURNMENT

No comments.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.