



## MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call.  
President Fishman called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. Secretary DiLorenzo called the roll.  
  
PRESENT: Trustees Cox, DiLorenzo, Fishman, Nealon, O'Keefe, Sommer, Director Auston  
ABSENT: Trustee Sennett  
VISITORS: None  
STAFF: Marti Bellefontaine, Andrea Vaughn Johnson, Linnea Lundberg
- II. Review draft of May 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Trustee Sommer moved approval of the May 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as corrected. Trustee DiLorenzo seconded the motion. There was no discussion.  
Aye – Cox, DiLorenzo, Fishman, Nealon, O'Keefe, Sommer  
Nay – None  
Abstain – None  
Absent or not voting – Sennett  
MOTION CARRIED.
- III. Public Comment.  
None.
- IV. Presentations.  
None
- V. Treasurer's Report.
  - A. Financial Report for May 2023. Trustee Sommer noted the following:
    - There were no tax revenues received during current month, which was to be expected.
    - The only change in Special Reserve Fund balance relates to interest income. There were no disbursements from the SRF. There was one disbursement from the Liability Fund in the amount of \$4,524.
    - In reviewing the Profit and Loss statement for General Fund only, it appears taxes collected (account 41000, totaling about \$4,955) is underfunded by \$635,000. Trustee Sommer reviewed a more detailed PL statement, and noted that the other funds (Liability, FICA/IMRF, and Audit) were included in the GF annual budgeted number, but the funds received for these accounts were not included in the income section. The PL for ALL CLASSES report shows that the Taxes Collected, line 41000, is \$5,507,000 and higher than what was included in the GF only while the total budgeted amount of \$5,591,099 is the same on both reports. The Director and Treasurer discussed this. With having an outside consultant handle the accounting,

the error appears to lie in some QuickBooks classifications. This, along with the continued discrepancy in Treasurer's calculated totals of GF and SRF balances, will be addressed and reconciled when the audit is completed for fiscal year 2022-23.

- B. Bills and Salaries Check Detail for May 2023. Trustee Cox moved approval of the May 2023 Bills and Salaries Check Detail, as presented. Trustee O'Keefe seconded the motion.

Aye – Cox, DiLorenzo, Fishman, Nealon, O'Keefe, Sommer

Nay – None

Abstain – None

Absent or not voting – Sennett

MOTION CARRIED.

VI. Action Items.

- A. Review and approval of draft Strategic Plan for 2023-27. Trustee DiLorenzo moved approval of the final draft of the Strategic Plan for 2023-27, as presented. Trustee Nealon seconded.

Aye – Cox, DiLorenzo, Fishman, Nealon, O'Keefe, Sommer

Nay – None

Abstain – None

Absent or not voting – Sennett

MOTION CARRIED.

- B. Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24. The Finance Committee met on June 9, 2023 to conduct their second review of the draft annual operating budget for FY 2023-24. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the FY 2023-24 budget, totaling \$6,398,247 for library operations for the year. Trustee O'Keefe moved approval of the final draft of the FY2023-24 Operating Budget totaling \$6,398,247, as presented. Trustee Sommer seconded.

Aye – Cox, DiLorenzo, Fishman, Nealon, O'Keefe, Sommer

Nay – None

Abstain – None

Absent or not voting – Sennett

MOTION CARRIED.

VII. Director's Report.

Director Auston took the opportunity to highlight WPLD's celebration of Pride Month in June, and to recount observations about an unusual moment in our Rainbow Storytime on June 14, and to thank the Board for supporting our diverse community of users and the library's values by adopting the new Strategic Plan and Mission Statement. He noted that, with the adoption of these documents, "we are proud to reinforce that Wilmette Public Library welcomes everyone, and that there will always be something for everyone at our library."

Director Auston also reported that last week Governor Pritzker signed into law unprecedented legislation effectively banning book banning, by stating that if a library or library system seeks to be eligible for state funding, it must either:

- (1) adopt the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights that indicates materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval; or
- (2) develop a written statement declaring the inherent authority of the library or library system to prohibit the practice of banning specific books or resources.

Wilmette Public Library has already taken that step, and further reinforced it with the recent comprehensive Collection Management Policy update earlier this year, which states:

The Board of Library Trustees (the board) recognizes that there is a broad range of interests among district residents. Therefore, the library's collection includes a variety of resources that present varying viewpoints on a diverse range of topics, including items that may be viewed as controversial by some members of the community. The library and the board resolve to protect the right to freely access information and resources from censorship and book banning, and seek to provide our community the opportunity to read and access information freely, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

Director Auston also noted from his report:

- The shifting of collections for better accessibility and merchandising continues
- Door counts are up
- 158 new cardholders were welcomed this month
- On track for our strongest fiscal year of circulation since 2018-19
- Asian American/Pacific Islander heritage month was celebrated across the library
- Preparing to launch our new notary service
- Youth Services conducted a wide scale campaign to promote our Summer Reading Clubs, reaching nearly 2000 students before school let out
- Youth Services expanded sensory-friendly tools for children to borrow while visiting the library
- Enhancing resources in the Technology Center, including our growing digitization resources/tools
- The telephone system replacement project candidate pool is being narrowed, and sample systems will be brought in to test this summer
- Salary structure study was conducted and market adjustments were made to several positions along with this evening's approved operating budget, which includes a 4% increase in compensation for all staff
- New Circulation Manager Matthew Hoffman joins us from Park Ridge Public Library, bringing over 20 years of relevant circulation, public library, and CCS experience

VIII. Committees - Report on Meetings.

A. ILA / RAILS Updates. No report.

B. Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee Update. Trustee Cox reported the most recent meeting was a brainstorming session regarding the mental health initiative with a design thinking activity to facilitate building awareness and understanding, establishing baseline data and reporting, the current ideal citizen experience, and the future ideal citizen experience. Trustee Cox noted incorporating ideas such as a space in the library displaying available mental health services, advertising/tagging items for mental health

awareness/acceptance, and community connection/sense of belonging and the lens of how that supports mental health.

- IX. Information Items.
  - A. Communication. Comments from suggestion boxes were distributed at the meeting.
  - B. The American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference is scheduled for June 22-27, 2023: <https://2023.alaannual.org/>.
- X. New Business.

None.
- XI. Adjournment.

Trustee DiLorenzo moved to adjourn the meeting.  
MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. The meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

---

President  
Board of Library Trustees of the  
Wilmette Public Library, Cook County, IL

---

Secretary  
Board of Library Trustees of the  
Wilmette Public Library, Cook County, IL

