

**Aurora Public Library District
Regular Board Meeting
Board of Library Trustees
March 26, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Trustees Joe Filapek, Paul LaTour, Kevin O’Neill, Katrina Plonczynski, Melinda, Riddick, Joseph Sánchez

Absent: Matthew Orr

Also present were Executive Director Michaela Haberkern, Deputy Director Tom Spicer, Finance Manager Mark Salem, Director of Neighborhood Services Heather Sturm, Director of Communications and Marketing Miriam Meza-Gotto, West Branch Manager Kiri Palm and Administrative Assistant Kim Gautschi

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: Michaela Haberkern requested that the Eola Road Branch Dedication Plaque action item be changed to a discussion item.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26, 2025, REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

Katrina Plonczynski moved, seconded by Joseph Sánchez, the board approved the minutes of the February 26, 2025 regular board meeting.

All in Favor

Absent: None

Motion carried

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 02-26-2025 MINUTES APPROVED

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Joe Filapek addressed the board regarding the proposed effective elimination of the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the impact that may have on libraries here and on the national level. IMLS funds grants and allocates federal funds to help support the Illinois State Library, which in turn helps to fund projects such as library delivery in Illinois, statewide virtual programming and per capita grants. Joe reminded the trustees about the American Library Association’s Show Up for Our Libraries campaign and reminded everyone they could contact their senators and representatives in Congress if they are so inclined.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Michaela Haberkern advised the library continues to wait for the construction permit from the City of Aurora. Staff have begun working with Studio GC on design development for West Branch and expects to have design approval to the board in October.

POLICY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:

Paul LaTour reported that the Policy and Personnel Committee met March 18 to discuss revisions to the Customer Behavior and Security Policy, the Confidentiality of Library Records Policy and the Succession and Continuity Plan as part of the regular review cycle. The committee also looked at the Social Media Policy, which was recently reviewed but needed additional revisions. The Customer Behavior and Security Policy and the Social Media Policy are in New Business and discussion was deferred to that time. The Confidentiality of Library Records Policy and the Succession and Continuity Plan will be on the board’s agenda in April and discussion was deferred until that time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

One community member spoke on the upcoming library trustee election and a second community member addressed the behavior environment in the library.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of February/March Bills

Finance Manager Mark Salem updated the board with an overview of the library’s current financial position and expenditures, revenue, and investments. Mark confirmed the March 2024 expenses and provided answers to the library board’s questions.

Katrina Plonczynski moved, seconded by Joseph Sánchez, to approve the monthly expenditures as listed on the Authorization Sheet for the period February 22, 2025 to March 21, 2025, in the amount of \$1,672,095.30, which includes payment to Lo Destro Construction in the amount of \$627,440.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Trustees Filapek, LaTour, O’Neill, Plonczynski, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Orr

Motion Carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS 02-22-25 TO 02-21-25 APPROVED

Security Services Update

Safety and Security Manager Bernie Keegan joined the board this evening to discuss measures that the library takes to ensure safety in the library.

Customer Behavior and Security Policy

Committee Chair Paul LaTour discussed revisions to the Customer Behavior and Security Policy, renamed the Library Use and Security Policy, with the board. Revisions include zero tolerance language around the issue of smoking, alcohol and drug use as well as more specifics about what kind of food is allowed in the library. Paul summarized the committee's deliberations regarding the issue of sleeping in the library, and how the committee decided to recommend reinstatement of this prohibition. The Policy and Personnel Committee recommends that the board approve the policy as presented.

After discussion, Kevin O'Neill moved, seconded by Joseph Sánchez, to approve the revisions to the Library Use and Security Policy.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Trustees Filapek, LaTour, O'Neill, Plonczynski, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Orr

Motion Carried

REVISIONS TO LIBRARY USE AND SECURITY POLICY APPROVED

Social Media Policy

Paul reviewed with the board proposed revisions of this policy, resulting from training that Michaela and Miriam Meza-Gotto attended regarding social media and the First Amendment. Proposed revisions ensure that the library, an entity of local government, does not restrict protected speech. The Policy and Personnel Committee recommends that the board approve this policy.

Kevin O'Neill moved, seconded by Melinda Riddick, to approve the revisions to the Social Media Policy.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Trustees Filapek, LaTour, O'Neill, Plonczynski, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None
Absent: Orr
Motion Carried

REVISIONS TO SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY APPROVED

Eola Road Branch Dedication Plaque

Michaela asked the board for their preferences regarding a dedication plaque memorializing the Eola Road Branch renovation. Such plaques often include the names of the architect, construction firm, library director, and board members involved in the project. The consensus was to have a dedication plaque, to include names of all board members involved even if they have left the board before the renovation is complete. The board requested to have a mockup to approve.

Executive Session

Katrina Plonczynski moved, seconded by Kevin O'Neill, to adjourn to executive session at 7:08 p.m. to discuss semi-annual review of executive session minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)).

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Filapek, LaTour, O'Neill, Plonczynski, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Orr

Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION APPROVED

Adjournment of Executive Session

Katrina Plonczynski moved, seconded by Joseph Sánchez, the board voted unanimously by roll call to adjourn the executive session at 7:14 p.m.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Filapek, LaTour, O'Neill, Plonczynski, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Orr

Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED

Return to Open Session

Kevin O'Neill moved, seconded by Melinda Riddick to return to Open Session at 7:14 p.m.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Filapek, LaTour, O'Neill, Plonczynski, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Orr

Motion carried.

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION APPROVED

Approval of Release of Executive Session Minutes

The board finds that for reasons of personal privacy or protection of the public interest the need for confidentiality still exists for the minutes of the September 25, 2024 executive session. As such these meeting minutes will be kept confidential at this time.

Katrina Plonczynski moved, seconded by Melinda Riddick to approve to keep the minutes of the September 25, 2024 executive session confidential at this time.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Filapek, LaTour, O'Neill, Plonczynski, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Orr

Motion carried.

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2024 EXECUTIVE SESSION TO REMAIN
CONFIDENTIAL AT THIS TIME**

Adjournment

Paul LaTour moved, seconded by Joseph Sánchez, the board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:16 p.m.

All in favor

Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT
CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY**
