

Fremont Public Library District
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
February 16, 2023

1. Call to Order
President Hoenig called to order the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of Library Trustees for the Fremont Public Library District at 6:00 p.m.
2. Roll call:
Trustees Present: Jay Kasten, Laurie MacKay, Jodie Nalezny, Brenda Pathmann, Amber Reid-Schwenk, Sharon Smogor and Steve Hoenig
Also Present: Scott Davis, Director
3. Kasten made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Nalezny. The motion passed by voice vote.
4. Public comment – none.
5. Secretary's Report
5.1 Pathmann made a motion to approve minutes of the regular monthly meeting of January 19, 2023; seconded by Kasten. The motion passed by voice vote.
6. Treasurer's Report
6.1 MacKay presented the monthly Finance Report for January 2023.
6.2 MacKay made a motion to approve lists of checks, payment of bills and salaries, and transfers for January 2023; seconded by Nalezny. Hoenig commented that the library's interest rate received from the bank keeps increasing. Davis noted that the bank was recently acquired and he is waiting to see if the new owners make any changes to the rate. The roll was called:
Yes: Kasten, MacKay, Nalezny, Pathmann, Reid-Schwenk, Smogor, and Hoenig
The motion passed.
7. Committee Reports
7.1 Finance Committee – no report
7.2 Personnel Committee – no report
7.3 Physical Facilities Committee – no report
7.4 Policy and Planning Committee – no report
8. President's Report
8.1 Kasten reported that the Friends may have a new member and that they have concerns about not being able to get into the Shell Space during the interior renovations. Davis pointed out that their storage closet and shelves are currently packed with materials that should get them through the construction. Davis also noted that he is in communication with the United Way of Lake County as another source for discards of children's items the Friends have trouble selling.
9. Director's Report
9.1 Davis mentioned a legislative meet-up that will take place at the Zion-Benton Public Library on the same day as the March Board of Trustees meeting.
9.2 Governor's Disaster Proclamation due to the COVID-19 pandemic is expiring in May and the ability to hold remote meetings without having a physical quorum in place also expires. Some discussion was held on the current rules that do allow trustees to participate remotely.
9.3 American Library Association's annual conference is in Chicago this June. Exhibit only passes are surprisingly expensive at a discounted rate of \$40.
9.4 The first in-person construction meeting will take place of March 1 with work to commence on March 6 with the emptying out of the Youth Services workroom.

- 9.5 Davis provided a report on the disposal of surplus property and the goal to have everything off site in time for the construction work in the Shell Space to being in mid-March.
- 9.6 Not long after IMRF's annual rate for 2023 was finalized the fund took a hit along with the stock market's end of year downturn. After reviewing the negative impact this had on the library's annual reserve statement, Davis expects the rate will bump up again next year.
- 9.7 A proposal was received for a robust panic button solution that came in much higher than desired. The vendor will make a revised proposal that scales down the equipment and brings the cost down. Davis will compare this to other panic button solutions.
- 9.8 Davis met with Loch Lomond homeowner's association representatives to discuss possible changes to the way the library handles aerating the pond in winter with the goal of reducing the amount of geese that spend extended time on and around the pond. Davis reported that the pond's creation predates the library's construction so its depth and structure is unknown. One geese deterrent is to expand the buffer of vegetation around the pond. The village of Mundelein has a new Beautification Committee that Davis hopes to work with on this goal.
- 9.9 Nalezny complimented staff on the number of outstanding customer comments recently received.
- 9.10 Smogor asked if the library has ever put up a display on local authors. Davis said he is not aware of that being done. He also noted the sometimes-uncomfortable situation when a local resident asks for a book they wrote to be added to the collection but it does not merit inclusion in the collection.
- 9.11 Smogor asked if the library has ever asked Library Trustee candidates to complete a questionnaire and post the responses in the library for other residents to view. Davis said the library has not done so and as the local election authority he is wary of getting involved in the election. In some communities, organizations like the League of Women Voters conduct candidate forums, but he is not aware of that ever taking place locally.
10. Other Business - none
11. Hoenig made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m.; seconded by Smogor. The motion passed by voice vote.

Approved/Date

/s/Brenda Pathmann, Secretary – 3/16/2023