

Rolla Public Library
Board of Trustees
Minutes of December 19, 2023

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Kristi Fleischhauer called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Members present included: Amy Koenig, Becky Roberts, John Denbo, Kristi Fleischhauer, Rachel White (via Zoom), Julie Peterman (via Zoom), and Robert Haselwander. Member(s) not present included: Brenda Linkeman. One vacancy remains.

- II. **Welcome to Visitors and Public Comment:**

Kristi Fleischhauer opens the meeting for public comment.

Megan Johnson, 1601 Broadway Street, thanks the Board for the opportunity to speak about a book in the library that she considers sexually explicit. She states the library should be a place that upholds standards of appropriateness and safeguards children and hopes that concerns brought at the previous meeting are considered.

Kristi Fleischhauer closes the meeting for public comment.

- III. **Monthly Financial Review:** Holli Hawkins presented the November financials.

- IV. **Review and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings:** November open session minutes – Amy Koenig made the motion to approve minutes. Robert Haselwander seconded, motion passed.

- V. **Library Director's Report:** A blood drive is scheduled for Friday, December 22, 2023, in the library. The library has a new custodian opening (20-28 hours weekly) and a library clerk position (16-20 hours weekly) This is not a new position, it was created by changing existing schedule hours. Next month the Board will update the Unattended Children Policy, a discrepancy was discovered in the current policy regarding the ages/adult requirement. Examples from other libraries will be provided. Circulation is going well; Amy Koenig asks if it would be possible to receive these numbers with comparisons to past months or years. The director suggests a spreadsheet or graph. The new annual report will be presented in January.

- VI. **Old Business:** There is no old business to report.

- VII. **New Business:**
 - a. Volunteer Policy and Forms: Forms do not need to be approved because they are procedural. The Volunteer Policy is new. There was a discussion that a few changes need to be made. The policy is tabled until next month so changes can be made before approval.
 - b. Kristi Fleischhauer made a statement about disinformation being spread through the public regarding books in the library. It is coming from sources that have not been in the library to see for themselves, speaking with staff, the director, or herself. She hopes people feel comfortable coming in to ask for themselves, ask about the library

bill of rights, and notes that public libraries advocate for all. The library wants to protect everyone coming into the library. She appreciates guests attending the meeting. The origin of the book concern was shared with guests and steps were taken quickly to rectify the situation. The board was asked if they would be fine with not responding to unsigned emails. Discussion followed. At this time, emails will be read and forwarded to all members.

- VII. **Schedule next meeting date:** The next Library Board meeting will be Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the meeting room in the Children's Wing in person and available via Zoom.

- IX. **Adjourn:** John Denbo made the motion to adjourn, Becky Roberts seconded, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.