



## BERWYN PUBLIC LIBRARY

### **Berwyn Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 22, 2022 Regular Meeting  
Berwyn Public Library  
Board Room**

#### **Call to Order:**

President Laureto called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board Trustees present in person or via conference call: President Nora Laureto, Secretary Maria Salinas, Treasurer Marta Rodriguez, Trustees, Pat Cagney, Emily Diebold, Barbara Korbelt and Paul Nudd. Absent: Vice-President Rosemary Caruk and Trustee Antoine Evans. Also present were Library Director Tammy and Administrative Assistant Nona Chapman.

A quorum has been established.

The Pledge to the Flag was recited.

#### **Minutes:**

It was motioned by Trustee Korbelt and seconded by Trustee Diebold to approve the January 17, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Open Session Minutes as presented. All Trustees present voting aye. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

#### **Open Forum:**

President Laureto opened the meeting to public comments and informed the guests present that the limit for comments was three minutes, however, she would not stop them as they were given the opportunity to speak.





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Kristen Newcomb, Reference Associate, said she worked in the Audio Visual for eight years and said it was her 19<sup>th</sup> year in the Reference Department. She also noted she was the Vice-President of AFSCME Union Council 31, who represents the employees from the City of Berwyn and the Berwyn Public Library. She has lived in Berwyn for approximately 40 years. She noted that in the recent Special Committee held on January 31, 2022, the Library Trustees discussed the pros and cons of becoming a District Library. She expressed her concern if this would occur as noted it may impact the services the library provides. She asked the Trustees to remember that a library is not just about books and computers, but also about the people who provide the services to the community.

Quinn Stitt, said she was in her 4<sup>th</sup> year in the library and was working in the Readers Advisory and Audio Visual Department, and was also a proud resident of Berwyn. She said she was here to express her concern regarding the library becoming a district. She noted it wasn't in the best interest to convert the library into a district as it would entail additional costs to provide the level of services it currently does and wouldn't be able to attract or retain quality employees or even offer a good benefit package. She noted these were of concern to her and if the library continues to look into this possibility she implored the Trustees to open the line of communication from the employees to be involved in this process.

Sandra Neri, an employee of the library, thanked Quinn for her comments and speaking before the Trustees.

Trustee Korbel said she felt horrible how the staff has clearly been sitting with this and in an emotional state and didn't want that to happen. She said they didn't need to worry about anything at this point. They are only discussing it as the intentions are just to have more funds available. She noted they had no intention of destroying any Union.

President Laureto stated that she would like them to stay for the meeting to understand what the library is seeking. She also said they wouldn't break any Union up, perhaps just research a different Union but, regardless it would be up to the staff to decide which Union they wanted to belong to. She also noted that we wanted to be transparent on these discussions. She also noted that staff retention was a priority. She also noted they are always welcomed to come to the board. She indicated that the committee is just exploring the possibility on becoming a district library and wants it to be a win win for everyone. She also reiterated she wants them to have the correct information and thanked and appreciated them for attending the meeting and invited them to stay for the rest of the meeting.





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Library Director Sheedy also reiterated that she has always invited the staff to the Board Meetings during their departmental meetings.

### **Directors Report:**

Library Director Sheedy reported that the Open Meeting Act portal is now open for anyone who still need to do the training or for anyone who would like to have a refresher training.

She discussed the ILA Trustee Forum has opened up for registration and has asked the Trustees if they were interested to let her know. Also, informed them that the In-Service date was scheduled for April 5, 2022, which was also National Library Workers Day. She also extended an invitation to the Trustees if they are able to attend. She also mentioned that staff is also usually recognized during this event. She indicated she would share more information as the date gets closer. She also reported that the grant application for the Services and Programs was completed, it was for \$ 25,000.00. She also applied for the Dollar General Early Literacy Grant for summer reading. Also the American Rescue grant monies was already in place to use for the planned Story Walk at Mraz Park. She noted they are meeting to discuss the plans for this event.

It was motioned by Secretary Salinas and seconded by Trustee Korbelt to accept the Director's Report as presented. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbelt and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

### **Finance Committee:**

Treasurer Rodriguez reported that the payables for January 2022 were presented in the amount of \$ 119,611.75.

Treasurer Rodriguez asked for a motion on the January 2022 reporting payables as presented.

It was motioned by Secretary Salinas and seconded by Trustee Korbelt to approve the January 2022 payables in the amount of \$ 119,611.75 as presented. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbelt and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

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She also noted that the Finance Committee did meet on January 17, 2022 and requested a motion for the approval of the minutes.

It was motioned by Trustee Korbel and seconded by Trustee Cagney to accept the Minutes from the Finance Committee of January 17, 2022 as presented. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbel and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

Treasurer Rodriguez reported that the Restricted Library Grant Fund Balance ending January 31, 2022 was \$ 200,314.71; Berwyn Library Deposit Fund Balance ending January 31, 2022 was \$ 1,517,157.54 and the Veverka Fund Balance ending January 31, 2022 was \$ 281,815.63.

Treasurer Rodriguez also discussed that she has researched other libraries and what information is posted on their website. She noted that other libraries have the budget posted and it shows how the tax dollars are accounted for. She disseminated a graph chart and suggested that the library's website also have this information for the public to see. Upon further discussion, it was the consensus that it would be a great idea and for transparency purposes if the library's annual budget information is posted.

### **Building and Grounds Committee:**

President Laureto reported that the committee did meet and requested a motion for approval of the minutes of the Building and Grounds Committee that was held on January 17, 2022.

It was motioned by President Laureto and seconded by Secretary Salinas to Trustee Cagney to accept the Minutes from the Finance Committee of January 17, 2022 as presented. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbel and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

### **Policy/Personnel Committee:**





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Trustee Korbel reported the committee did meet and requested a motion for approval of the minutes of the P&P Committee that was held on January 17, 2022.

It was motioned by Trustee Diebold and seconded by President Laureto to accept the meeting minutes from the January 17, 2022 P&P Committee as presented. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbel and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

Trustee Korbel briefed the Trustees on the results from the Board Self-Evaluation. She expressed her concerns on some items that she felt have always been addressed and being implemented. She also said that Library Directory Sheedy has been doing an outstanding job in always keeping the Trustees informed of everything.

### **Veverka Committee:**

Trustee Cagney reported the committee did meet and discussed the additional central service desk pieces. He requested an additional \$ 8,306.37 from the Veverka fund to complete and satisfy the project as noted.

It was motioned by President Laureto and seconded by Secretary Salinas to approve the request for the additional funding not to exceed \$ 8,700.00 as noted. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbel and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

### **Strategic Planning Committee:**

President Laureto reported that another meeting needs to be scheduled to continue the planning.

### **Art Selection Committee:**

Trustee Nudd reported that the framing for the art is anticipated to take place in the fall. Trustee Korbel said that three blueprints will need to be framed, whichever methods is most feasible as they are very large prints.

### **Special Committee**





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President Laureto reported the committee did meet and requested a motion for approval of the minutes of the Special Committee that was held on January 31, 2022.

President Laureto read the minutes for the staff members present to be made aware of what was discussed. She also briefed them on the meeting that she had with Mayor Lovero discussing the library's plan to explore and research on transitioning to a District Library. She noted that there are still many steps involved as the library is still researching and will take an approximate year to complete the research.

It was motioned by Treasurer Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Korbel to approve the meeting minutes from the January 31, 2022 Special Committee as amended. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbel and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

### **Friends of the Library**

President Laureto said she attended a meeting of the Friends of the Library. She said they were in renewal mode and were in the process of reviewing the By-Laws to upgrade them and make them more reader friendly. She also said they agreed to fund the 3D printer for \$ 1,500.00. She also said the president of the Irving School PTO was present and thanked the library for the book donation.

### **Old Business:**

Library Director Sheedy reported there was none to report.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Library Director Sheedy reported there was none to report.

### **New Business:**

President Laureto asked staff managers to attend the library meetings. She also invited a staff member to be part of the Special Committee. She also mentioned inviting former Library Director John Chrastka to attend the Special Committee Meeting so he can provide more insight on the exploration of becoming a District Library.





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### **Closed Session:**

It was motioned by Secretary Salinas and seconded by Trustee Korbel to adjourn from Open Session and enter into closed session at 8:01 p.m. for the discussion under ILCS 5 120/2C (1) to consider appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance matters or dismissal of an employee;(C) (5) To discuss intergovernmental contract negotiations; and (C) (21) To discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed. All Trustees present voting aye. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

It was motioned by Secretary Salinas and seconded by President Laureto to reconvene to open session at 8:25 p.m. All Trustees present voting aye. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

### **POSSIBLE ACTION on items discussed in closed session.**

### **Minutes:**

It was motioned by Secretary Salinas and seconded by Trustee Korbel to table the approval of the Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes of November 15, 2021 and January 17, 2022. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbel and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

### **Committee meetings:**

### **Finance:**

Finance Committee was not scheduled, to be advised.

### **Policy and Personnel:**

The Policy and Personnel Committee Meeting was not scheduled, to be advised.

### **Building and Grounds:**

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The Building and Grounds Committee Meeting was scheduled for March 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

### **Veverka:**

The Veverka Committee was not scheduled, to be advised.

### **Strategic Planning:**

The Strategic Committee was not scheduled, to be advised.

### **Art Selection:**

The Art Selection Committee was not scheduled, to be advised.

### **Special Committee**

The Special Committee was scheduled for March 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

President Laureto announced that the next regularly scheduled Berwyn Public Library Meeting is on Monday, March 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment:**

It was motioned by Secretary Salinas seconded by President Laureto to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Roll Call: President Laureto, Secretary Salinas, Treasurer Rodriguez, Trustees Cagney, Diebold, Korbelt and Nudd. Nays: None. Absent: Vice-President Caruk and Trustee Evans. Motion carried.

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Maria Salinas, Secretary

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