

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
WILL AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
HELD JANUARY 18, 2024
BOLINGBROOK, ILLINOIS

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fountaindale Public Library District, Will and DuPage Counties, Illinois was held in the Margaret J. "Peggy" Danhof Board Room, 300 West Briarcliff Road, Bolingbrook, Illinois on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 7 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Celeste Bermejo.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by recorder, Juanita Lennon, and a quorum was established.

PRESENT

Present at roll call were Bobby Armstrong, Marcelo Valencia, Kathryn Spindel, Sarah Siska, Meraj Alam, Jim Daunis Jr. and Celeste Bermejo.

ABSENT

None.

FOUNTAINDALE STAFF PRESENT

The following staff was present: Paul Mills and Juanita Lennon.

Nancy Korczak was present online.

PUBLIC PRESENT

The following public was present: Jody Hargett, Jennie Mills and Damien Valencia.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Bermejo asked for a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Siska, seconded by Spindel.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – December 21, 2023

The minutes of the board meeting held December 21, 2023 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Spindel, seconded by Daunis. Minutes were approved as read.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Christine Tucker was unable to attend the meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Trustee Valencia introduced his brother, Damien Valencia who is visiting from San Diego. Mr. Valencia wished Trustee Valencia a very happy birthday. The Board also wished Trustee Valencia happy birthday.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Jody Hargett updated the Board. The beginning of January was a great start to the year. The Book Cellar was doing very well. The Cellar had to close for a few days due to the weather. The Nook is also doing very well. The classic books are quite popular these days.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Ordinance 2024-1 – An Ordinance abating a portion of the tax heretofore levied for the year 2023 to pay the principal of and interest on \$7,290,000 General Obligation Library Building Bonds, Series 2019, of the Fountaindale Public Library District, Will and DuPage Counties, Illinois

Mills reported that this ordinance will abate \$247,850 of the building bond levy for tax year 2023.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2024-1 – An Ordinance abating a portion of the tax heretofore levied for the year 2023 to pay the principal of and interest on \$7,290,000 General Obligation Library Building Bonds, Series 2019, of the Fountaindale Public Library District, Will and DuPage Counties, Illinois was made by Valencia, seconded by Daunis.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Approval of Ordinance 2024-2 – An Ordinance Approving Amendments to the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of the Fountaindale Public Library District

It was noted that the Board had reviewed the draft change to the Bylaws regarding the conditions for remote trustee participation in a meeting at the December 2023 board meeting. This meeting is thus the first eligible meeting for the draft change to the Bylaws to be approved via ordinance.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2024-2 – an Ordinance approving amendments to the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of the Fountaindale Public Library District was made by Spindel, seconded by Armstrong.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Approval of Resolution 2024-1 – Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Certain Tax Appeal Cases

Milles reported that in order for our attorneys, Tressler LLP to continue to represent the library in tax appeal cases, a resolution must be approved by the Board annually.

A motion to approve Resolution 2024-1 – Resolution authorizing intervention in certain tax appeal cases was made by Valencia, seconded by Armstrong.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Approval of Request to Travel for Trustees to Attend 2024 American Library Association Annual Conference in San Diego, CA – June 27–July 2, 2024

A motion to approve the request to travel for Trustees to attend the 2024 American Library Association Annual Conference in San Diego, California from June 27 to July 2, 2024 was made by Valencia, seconded by Spindel.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Approval of Request to Travel for Executive Director to Attend 2024 American Library Association Annual Conference in San Diego, CA – June 27–July 2, 2024

This will be Executive Director Mills’ final conference as an ILA ALA Councilor. The Illinois Library Association will be paying for travel.

A motion to approve the request to travel for Executive Director to attend the 2024 American Library Association Annual Conference in San Diego, California from June 27 to July 2, 2024 was made by Spindel, seconded by Daunis.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Approval of Request to Travel for Executive Director to Attend 2024 Public Library Association Conference in Columbus, OH – April 2-5, 2024

Mills is requesting to travel out of state for the 2024 PLA Conference.

A motion to approve the request to travel for Executive Director to attend the 2024 Public Library Association Conference in Columbus, Ohio from April 2-5, 2024 was made by Valencia, seconded by Daunis.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

LIBRARY PROJECTS

Mills reported that bids for the 3rd Floor project and the staff area lighting projects are due next week. Bids will be reviewed by the Building Liaisons and recommendations will be brought to the February board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

The library received a letter from the Illinois State Library reminding all libraries to notify them of any board vacancies.

President Bermejo received a Christmas card from the Jeans for the Homeless organization.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for December 2023 was presented by Treasurer Spindel and will be filed for audit.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL

Bills Paid Report – January, 2024

Bills paid for the month of January in the amount of \$59,560.84 was presented for approval. Motion to approve was made by Siska, seconded by Armstrong.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Bills Payable Report – January, 2024

Bills payable for the month of January in the amount of \$1,317,629.91 was presented for approval. Motion to approve was made by Armstrong, seconded by Valencia.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – December, 2023

Mills shared that Lea Pottle, Human Resources Manager, announced that she is retiring. Pottle will remain at the library until the new manager begins.

Our next Staff In-Service Day is on February 23. Trustees Daunis and Spindel volunteered to speak at the morning session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

REPORTS

Building – None.

Finance – Upcoming meeting on February 13.

Strategic Plan – Upcoming meeting on January 31.

Internal Board Operations – The liaisons met last month. The revised Trustee interview questions are included.

AGENDA BUILDING FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bolingbrook Rotary Club Mac & Cheese fundraiser will take place on Saturday, March 9 at New Life Lutheran Church.

The 2024 State of the Village will be on Thursday, February 1 at the Bolingbrook Golf Club.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Spindel, seconded by Valencia, to enter Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. for 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21) “Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.”

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

A motion was made by Valencia, seconded by Siska, to return to Open Session at 7:29 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Approval of Report on Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

Bermejo reported that the consensus was to keep all closed meeting minutes closed.

A motion to approve the report on the review of closed Executive Session Minutes and for the minutes to remain closed was made by Armstrong, seconded by Alam.

AYES: Armstrong, Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. was made by Valencia, seconded by Alam.

/s/ Robert Armstrong
Secretary, Board of Library Trustees
FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
WILL AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

/s/ Celeste M. Bermejo
President, Board of Library Trustees
FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
WILL AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS