

Scenic Regional Library  
Board Minutes – March 15, 2022

Scenic Regional Library Board of Trustees met at the Scenic Regional Library Union Branch on March 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Board President Karen Holtmeyer presided at the meeting. Board members attending the meeting were Joy Dufrein, John Barry, Linda Andrae, Kathleen Ham, Robert Niebruegge, Michele Fehlings, and Paula Sutton. Board members Laura Hengstenberg, John Cheatham, Martha Lindsley, Susan Richardson, and Carla Robertson were absent.

Library Director Steven Campbell, Assistant Library Director Megan Maurer, Business and Human Resources Manager Kjersti Merseal, and Administrative Assistant Erica Mosley were also present.

There were no public comments.

**Public Comments**

Joy Dufrein would like “47” changed to “Highway 47” in the open and closed sessions of the February 15, 2022 minutes.

**Approval of Minutes**

***Robert Niebruegge made the motion to approve the February 15, 2022 minutes as amended. Kathleen Ham seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The motion carried 7/0.***

Director Campbell said the materials budget is still over, at 69% whereas it should be at 66%. He said it should be under budget by the end of the fiscal year, which will satisfy the audit.

**Financial Report**

The bond payment was made today, and will be reflected in next month’s Board report.

Revenue collected is at 98.5%, and Director Campbell said the remaining \$93,000 should be collected within the next three months or so.

***John Barry made the motion to approve the Financial Report. Michele Fehlings seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The motion carried 7/0.***

Director Campbell updated the Board on the pending e-book legislation. Although Missouri’s e-book bill has not yet gone to trial or been found unconstitutional, legislators are still reluctant to take it up when its outcome is so uncertain. Therefore, Missouri’s bill is effectively dead, as is the case with the bill in other states. Director Campbell said a new bill will have to be introduced next year. Missouri is one of five or six states currently trying to pass this legislation.

**Reports**

Director Campbell said that, originally, the Hermann art gallery’s grand opening was planned to be the same day as the new Hermann branch’s grand opening. However, the artist group organizing the gallery decided that would be too much activity for the gallery, and decided to delay the opening until July 1. The Library will have to collect sales tax for any art sold. The credit card machine at the branch can be used for this. Any art sold will remain on display; buyers can take their pieces home at the end of the exhibit. John Barry asked

about liability for the art. Joy Dufrain said it's standard for galleries to make artists sign a waiver, and to include their art under their own homeowner's insurance. Director Campbell said the Library's insurance broker is aware, and that there will be an alarm system and cameras installed at the gallery. Submissions will be reviewed and selected by a panel of local artists. The gallery will have room for at least fifty pieces to hang on the wall, with more hung in the hallway, as well as pedestals for sculpture-type pieces. The Board discussed whether or not the gallery should have Sunday hours, staffed by volunteers. Kathleen Ham was in favor; Michele Fehlings said that personally, she would not, as tourist traffic dies out fairly early on Sundays. Director Campbell said the gallery will be an evolving learning process, and that for the first couple exhibits there may be some trial and error.

**Paula Sutton entered the meeting at 7:15.**

Director Campbell was supposed to hear this week about a potential solution for the new Hermann branch's interior door hardware delay, but he has not. However, he is still hopeful the branch can open on June 1, in time for Summer Reading Program. He said this was not the contractor's fault, as the hardware was ordered well in advance; it is a supply-chain issue. Exterior windows are installed, sheet rock is almost up, and exterior brick will be put up this week.

The April Board meeting will be an abbreviated meeting, to allow for audit training right after, at 7:45.

The new Collection Development Policy will be presented at the April Board meeting. It is done, but Director Campbell is waiting on feedback from staff.

There is a potential buyer for the old Union branch building. There is also a business owner planning to buy the old Administration building, pending the approval of a business loan from a local bank. The Board discussed whether it would be worthwhile to have the old Union branch building re-appraised. Robert Niebruegge said it will only continue to deteriorate the longer it sits empty.

Director Campbell said that, according to Circulation Coordinator Diane Disbro, the proposed reciprocal agreement with the Municipal Library Consortium will make the process of issuing new library cards very "clean." Currently, it is almost impossible to track because it is extremely complicated to determine if a library card applicant lives in St. Louis County or a municipality.

***Robert Niebruegge made the motion to approve the Reciprocal Lending Agreement Between the Municipal Library Consortium of St. Louis County and Scenic Regional Library. Joy Dufrain seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The motion carried 8/0.***

Director Campbell presented the new mission statement that has been drafted by the committee, and asked for the Board's feedback. Both Karen Holtmeyer and Michele Fehlings liked that "Read, Explore, Grow" was included. Paula Sutton said it was concise and to the point. Robert Niebruegge said the Board

**New Business**

**Proposed  
Reciprocal  
Agreement with the  
Municipal Library  
Consortium**

**Proposed New  
Library Mission  
Statement**

is ready to approve it as it stands. Director Campbell will return to the committee with this information, and the final draft will be presented for approval at the next Board meeting.

The Board discussed the bids for surveying and soil testing at the proposed Marthasville site.

*John Barry made the motion to approve the bid from BFA Civil Engineering for surveying and the bid from THD Design Group for testing work on the Marthasville Property. Paula Sutton seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The motion carried 8/0.*

There was no unfinished business.

*Robert Niebruegge made the motion to move to Executive Session. Kathleen Ham seconded the motion.*

*There was a roll call vote to move into Executive Session: Karen Holtmeyer—Aye, Paula Sutton—Aye, Joy Dufrain—Aye, John Barry—Aye, Linda Andrae—Aye, Kathleen Ham—Aye, Robert Niebruegge—Aye, Michele Fehlings—Aye.*

The Board moved into Executive Session at 7:45 pm.

*There was a roll call vote to move out of Executive Session: Karen Holtmeyer—Aye, Paula Sutton—Aye, Joy Dufrain—Aye, John Barry—Aye, Linda Andrae—Aye, Kathleen Ham—Aye, Robert Niebruegge—Aye, Michele Fehlings—Aye.*

The Library Board returned from Executive Session at 7:59 pm.

Linda Andrae complimented the Union branch staff for their interaction with her mother, whom she'd brought to visit the Library last week.

The June Board meeting will take place at the new Hermann building, if it is completed in time.

*There being no further business, Board President Karen Holtmeyer adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

**Bids for  
Marthasville  
Property  
Geotechnic Work**

**Unfinished Business**

**Closed Session –  
RSMo 610.021 (2)  
Real Estate  
RSMo 610.021 (1)  
Legal  
RSMo 610.022 (3)  
Personnel**

**Adjourn**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
President, Scenic Regional Library Board of Trustees

Date: \_\_\_\_\_