

## MINUTES

### PARK RIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Held in Council Chambers

Park Ridge City Hall – 505 Butler Place

Park Ridge, IL

April 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

### CALL TO ORDER

President Thiagarajan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Trustees Present: Michael Donahue, Alexandra Hanba, Josh Kiem, Danielle Powers, Theresa Renaldi, Vice President; Gregg Rusk, Treasurer; Deepika Thiagarajan  
Trustees Absent: Anita De Frank, Secretary; David Somheil  
Others Present: Joanna Bertucci, Library Director, Angela Berger, Lauren Bochat, Emily Fardoux, Jen Healy, Mary Mason, Laura Scott, Grace Swedberg, Joan Wrenn, Library Staff  
Maiya Swedberg, Sheryl Skowronski, Bill Mountin, Ace Steele

### PRESENTATION OF THE 2025 LIBRARY AWARD

President Thiagarajan stated that the 2025 Library Award is being awarded to two recipients, Grace Swedberg, Maker Space Associate at the Library, and Ace Steele, teen volunteer. President Thiagarajan read the criteria for receiving this award from the Board's policy statement and then read the nominations for each of the awardees. A plaque inscribed with the award recipients names, and those of previous Library Award winners, is installed in the Library and the winners were also presented with an engraved book honoring their contributions to the Library. A short recess in the meeting was taken so that those present could congratulate them on their achievements.

### PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

### CONSENT AGENDA

President Thiagarajan directed the Board's attention to the list of items on the Consent Agenda and stated that if a trustee(s) would like an item removed from Consent, the item will be removed for further discussion after the Consent Agenda is approved. There were no requests for changes to the Consent Agenda.

The following items are included on the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of Minutes of the March 18, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Library Board
- Ratify Bills Payable Warrant Register Period 3, March 16, 2025 in the amount of \$141,879.54 and Period 3, March 31, 2025 in the amount of \$134,209.57
- Approve Cash Statement for all accounts for March 2025
- Ratify disbursements from the Petty Cash Fund, \$172.23
- Approve revisions to the Library Programs and Unpaid Internships policies

Trustee Hanba made a **motion**

**MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda

Vice President Renaldi seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Donahue, Hanba, Kiem, Powers Renaldi, Rusk, Thiagarajan

Absent: De Frank, Somheil

**Motion passed**

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**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Treasurer Rusk reviewed the Consolidated YTD Revenue and Expenditures Report for FY25 Period 3 noting that the report presented does not reflect tax revenues received but not recorded in MUNIS. An updated report reflects approximately \$2million in YTD Revenues, or 50% of budgeted amounts. Operating expenses are 21% of budget with Capital Expense at 1% of budgeted amounts.

President Thiagarajan made a **motion**

**MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda

Treasurer Rusk seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Donahue, Hanba, Kiem, Powers Renaldi, Rusk, Thiagarajan

Absent: De Frank, Somheil

**Motion passed**

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

None

**SECRETARY’S REPORT**

In Secretary DeFrank’s absence, Trustee Powers reviewed each of the PRPL website and press articles included in the Secretary’s report beginning on page 14 of the packet. Highlighted was the press article on proposed funding cuts to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Director Bertucci provided highlights from the Director’s Report beginning on page 16 of the packet and noted the following:

- Over the course of the past two days, seven strategic planning engagement sessions were held with 58 adults and 15 teens participating. In addition, approximately 2,000 responses to the survey have been received. Rethinking Libraries (RTL) will now take all data received and compile a findings book for the June 2, 2025 strategic planning retreat.
- The Library is participating in a new Green Initiative; Clean Up and Give Back. Plastic bags are being recycled and when 1,000 pounds of bags have been recycled, the Library will receive a Trex bench.
- Pages 19-21 contain information prepared by RAILS regarding the potential impact of funding cuts for Illinois libraries as a result of an executive order signed by President Trump. Page 20 illustrates the amount and allocation of IMLS funding in Illinois.
- Director Bertucci summarized the work done by Adult Services Manager Laura Scott in reviewing existing database subscriptions. As a result of this review, some subscriptions were deleted while others were added to the Library’s offerings; resulting in cost savings and realigned offerings.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT**

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Director Bertucci noted that Marketing Manager Jen Healy has helped with transitioning the Friends marketing efforts from mail to an email model. The Friends are currently preparing for their spring sale which will be held May 2-4<sup>th</sup>.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Review of 2024 Annual Report** - Director Bertucci noted that an updated version of the annual report is included in the packet on pages 25-30. This updated version reflects changes discussed at the April 8<sup>th</sup> committee of the whole meetings.

President Thiagarajan stated that she believes the changes incorporate everything that was discussed at the COW and that the financial section of the report will be understandable and informative for patrons as well. Trustee Donahue agreed with President Thiagarajan's assessment.

President Thiagarajan made a **motion**

**MOTION:** To approve the 2024 Annual Report as presented

Trustee Hanba seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Donahue, Hanba, Kiem, Powers Renaldi, Rusk, Thiagarajan

Absent: De Frank, Somheil

**Motion passed**

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Thiagarajan made a

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting

Vice President Renaldi seconded the motion

Voice Vote: Yes: All in favor

**Motion passed**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.