

**MINUTES  
ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Tuesday, May 18, 2021  
ELMLIB.ORG/VIRTUAL, 7:00 PM**

This meeting was held both virtually via Zoom and in-person in the Kossmann Room.

President Susan Sadowski called the May 18, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Board members in attendance in the Kossmann Room included: Susan Sadowski and William Shanklin.

Board members in attendance via Zoom included: Jane Chornij, Taylor Holop, and Carol Jacobsen.

Board members absent included: Marsha Baker, Ingrid Becton, Teresa Menolascino, and William Ryan.

Also in attendance were Library Director Mary Beth Harper, Assistant Director Marcy Rodriguez, and Admin/HR Manager Rita Andreuccetti.

Visitors Yeena Yoo, Michael Schaller, and Daniel Maziarz were in attendance. Michael Schaller asked the Board to eliminate overdue fines.

Michael Schaller provided public comment via email. Director Harper read the email aloud:

*Hi Library Board - I am an Elmhurst resident and library patron for over 40 years. What if our library eliminated overdue fines? My guess is that the library spends more costs on collecting fines than the actual fines generate. We should continue with overdue notices and that task, just eliminate fines. Some progressive libraries like Oak Park have such a policy of no overdue fines. Maybe try it for the balance of the year. I think the fines are insulting and petty.*

*Thanks for listening.*

*Michael Schaller*

Annelle Fletcher also provided public comment via email. Director Harper read the email aloud:

*Good afternoon,*

*I just want to thank you, the library board, and the employees (especially the programming staff) for the wonderful work at meeting resident needs throughout the pandemic and during the past*

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*many months/year? of reopening. Many decisions, much flexibility and unceasing pivoting required, am sure.*

*Either through a virtual Shakespeare program or the one on Midwest History, viewing patrons were informed of the upcoming Summer Fine Print available digitally. Having viewed the selections earlier this afternoon (and signing up for 16), it's obvious the dedicated staff put a tremendous amount of work and thought into this summer's programs and opportunities. Certainly something for everyone! Makes me wish I were a young parent again ... or 20/30 something ... Always amazed :) at catalogue offerings ...*

*With appreciation and kudos for the continued excellent work in making the library a (the) favorite destination for myself and so many others ~*

*Sincerely,  
Annelle Fletcher*

*P.S. Really enjoyed your recommendation of Coming Up for Air by Sarah Leipciger!*

The first order of business was the approval of the Minutes of the April 20, 2021 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting. William Shanklin moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the April 20, 2021 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting be approved as presented.

Carol Jacobsen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Chornij, Holop, Jacobsen, Shanklin, and Sadowski

Nays: None

Absent: Baker, Becton, Menolascino, and Ryan

The motion carried.

The next order of business was the approval of the May 18, 2021 Accounts Payable. William Shanklin moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the May 18, 2021 Accounts Payable be approved as presented.

Director Harper responded to questions about the invoices. Jane Chornij seconded the motion.

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Roll call vote:  
Ayes: Chornij, Holop, Jacobsen, Shanklin, and Sadowski  
Nays: None  
Absent: Baker, Becton, Menolascino, and Ryan

The motion carried.

Director Harper discussed the financial reports. She stated that the Library will not receive property tax payments until the end of May. There are sufficient funds in reserves to cover expenses until tax payments are received. She noted that a replacement tax payment of \$69,906 was received. On the expenditure report, Ms. Harper mentioned that the Library is hiring several positions.

In the Director's Report, Ms. Harper stated that the Library is open with no time restrictions. Patrons are enjoying having access to the study rooms. There are requests for in-person programming and patrons are also interested in meeting rooms. Because *Fine Print* is produced so far in advance, most of the summer programs are still virtual. However, we will host some outdoor programs and will also offer pop-up programming in the summer to bridge the gap until fall programming begins. We're also planning to open up meeting room reservations again. She noted that the parking lot resurfacing project is complicating things because the drive-up will be relocated to the west entrance. The meeting room hallway will house the holds. The Gathering Room is available and we hope to begin scheduling it soon at reduced capacity rates. Weather permitting, the parking lot resurfacing project is scheduled to begin on May 24.

There was no President's report.

There was no Unfinished Business.

The next order of New Business was the approval to become a fine free library. Director Harper stated that the fine free trend has become the norm as many libraries in Illinois and nationwide have embraced this policy. Head of Circulation, Samantha Cresswell attended the meeting to answer questions. After much discussion Director Harper asked for a vote. William Shanklin moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Fine Free be approved as presented.

Carol Jacobsen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:  
Ayes: Chornij, Holop, Jacobsen, Shanklin, and Sadowski  
Nays: None  
Absent: Baker, Becton, Menolascino, and Ryan

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The motion carried.

The next order of New Business was the approval of a Fund Balance Policy. William Shanklin moved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fund Balance Policy is approved as presented.

Director Harper stated that the adoption of the attached Fund Balance Policy establishes year-end fund balance levels for existing funds. Carol Jacobsen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Chornij, Holop, Jacobsen, Shanklin, and Sadowski

Nays: None

Absent: Baker, Becton, Menolascino, and Ryan

The motion carried.

The next order of New Business was the Parking Lot Project Update. Director Harper stated that the parking lot resurfacing project is scheduled to begin on May 24, weather permitting. It is estimated that the entire lot will be closed for 4-5 weeks. Patrons may park in the Elmhurst Art Museum lot and Library staff lot (on the southeast corner of Prospect and Park.) The Drive-up will be temporarily relocated to the west entrance. Details about parking and services have been communicated in a variety of ways to make sure visits to the Library remain smooth during the closure.

There being no Other Business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.